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THE SPECTATOR

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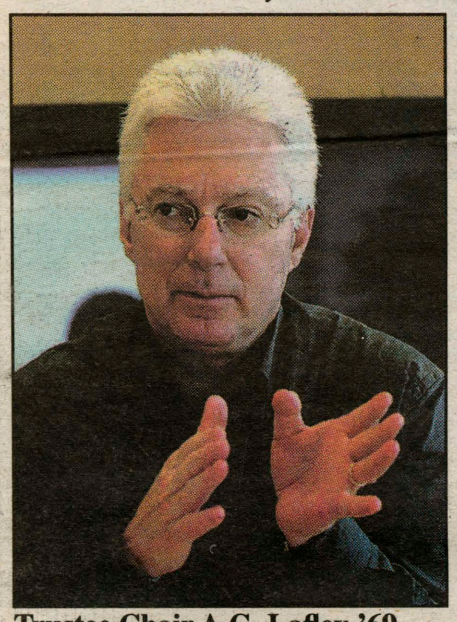
Trustee Board Convenes

by Meredith Kennedy '09
News Writer

Now that the semester is in full gear, it is time to take a break and enjoy some of the many activities of Fallcoming Weekend. Amid all the excitement and celebrations of the annual event, Hamilton's Board of Trustees will also be meeting for the first time during the 2008-2009 academic year.

The dedicated Trustees will travel to Clinton from as far away as London and California to attend the Board meeting and vote on important issues. There are a total of 36 voting members of the Board, as well as 28 Life Trustees who don't vote, but are invited to sit in on the meetings.



Trustee Chair A.G. Lafley '69.

The twelve different Board committees will meet at various times throughout the day on Friday. The committees include Development, Admission, Student Affairs, Budget and Finance, Buildings, Grounds and Equipment, Investments and Honorary Degrees. In addition to the Trustees and senior staff members, student and faculty representatives are invited to attend most committee meetings in order to ensure that information is effectively communicated between the College's governance bodies both on and off campus.

In addition, there is a brief faculty presentation given by Professor of History Maurice Isserman on Saturday. Isserman plans to discuss his research thus far on the bicentennial history of the College, which he has been commissioned to write.

Executive Assistant to the President Meredith Harper Bonham played an integral role in the planning of the upcoming meetings. "One of the major items the Board will discuss is the draft of the strategic planning document," said Bonham. The strategic planning document is a concise and efficient statement of values, followed by goals and priorities of the College.

On Friday afternoon there will be an opportunity for Trustees to offer their own insight about the document, as well as welcome feedback from faculty, staff and student representatives. Other issues on Friday's agenda include the admission statistics of the class of 2012, the final 2008-2009 budget, and updates on the future renovations to the art department and Emerson Hall.

While the Trustees will spend a good portion of the weekend in meetings, they also look forward to meeting students and mingling at the annual Comstock Luncheon honoring student scholarships.

A.G. Lafley, in his first meeting as chairman of the Board, took the opportunity to get to know current students and faculty in the new KJ Commons on Thursday afternoon. Lafley, curious about life on campus, spoke of the good old days when the dorm fireplaces still worked and the library was housed in the Christian Johnson building. His overall concern for student needs and desires showed his dedication to his new role with Hamilton. Lafley also offered a word of advice about the future to anxious seniors. "I don't think you need to hurry [to get a job]," Lafley said, "You've got your whole life to work." Lafley's positive outlook left students with a sense of comfort and something to look forward to as they take their next step after Hamilton.

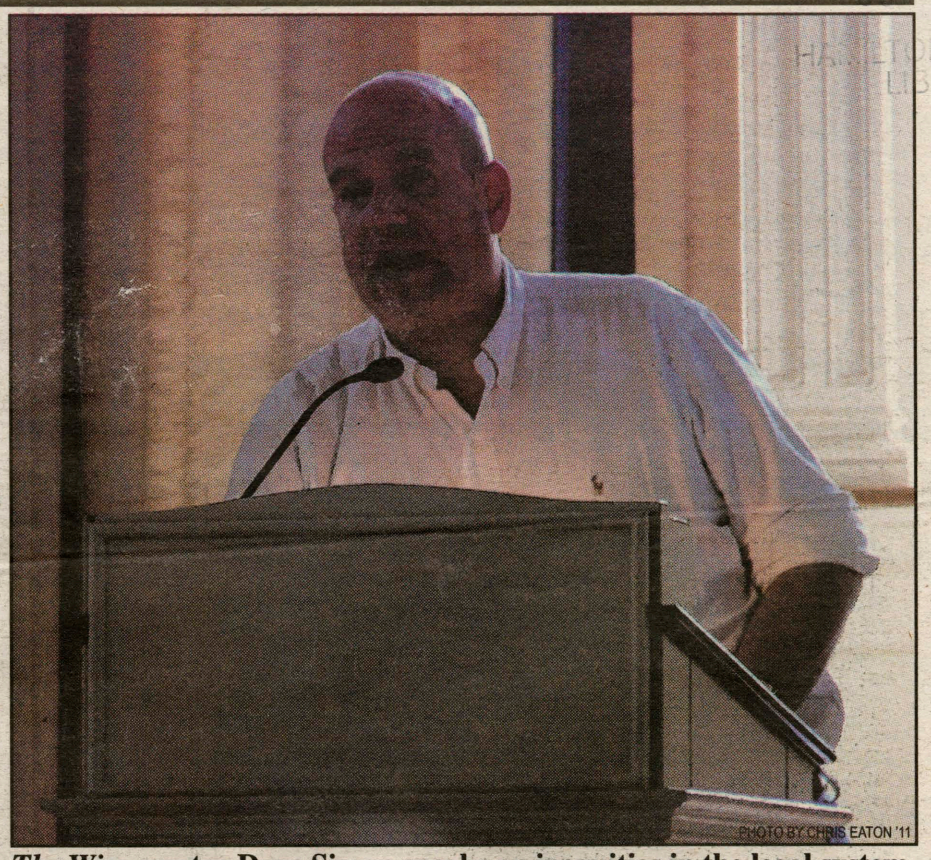


PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

***The Wire* creator Dave Simon speaks on inequities in the legal system.**

Wire Creator Dave Simon Discusses Legal Inequity

by Rebekah Mintzer '09
Senior Editor

David Simon, writer/producer of HBO's The Wire, as well as a seasoned journalist and author, spoke to a full chapel yesterday for the second annual lecture in American Studies. In his talk, entitled "The Audacity of Despair," Simon discussed his perceptions of contemporary America. He also discussed its glaring inequities and how his time as a crime reporter for The Baltimore Sun inspired him to create The Wire.

Simon's commentary on America today certainly did not leave the audience feeling terribly optimistic about the nation's future, but nevertheless conveyed a sort of honesty that some audience members found refreshing in a country where, in Simon's words, "We've been full of ourselves for so long…telling the truth is the first step to finding our way back." Simon explained that the feeling of American ascendance post World War II is long over, and that the great American empire of the 20th century is plummeting quickly towards disaster. As a crime reporter in Baltimore, a city ridden with more than its share of drugs and poverty,

see ***Simon,*** *page 2*

Green Week a Success

by Saad Chaudhry '12
Science & Technology Editor

The Hamilton Environmental Action Group (HEAG) launched Green Week, kicking it off on Monday with a lecture by UMASS Amherst Prof. John Burand, titled "Colony Collapse Disorder in Honey Bees: The Tip of the Iceberg." The lecture discussed the recently discovered colony collapse disorder (CCD), in which adult worker bees abandon healthy hives. CCD was first reported by a beekeeper in 2006, and is thought to be one of the primary reasons why the bee population has been consistently decreasing since the 1940s, and why there are almost no wild bees left.

When asked what inspired HEAG to arrange for Burand's lecture, HEAG Co-President Catie Ferrara '11, responded, "When we heard Burand did not fit under the category of environmental justice for the Diversity and Social Justice Project, [HEAG] felt compelled to contact the professor and invite him to give a talk."

Jeremy Gleason '11, also HEAG Co-President, further added, "CCD is a very new issue that is not getting the press it deserves, and when one hears the myth that Einstein said without bees humans would only have four years to survive, it becomes obvious that we need to bring this issue to life."

The next event planned for Green Week was the "Eat Local and No Trays Challenge," which was graciously hosted

see ***HEAG,*** *page 16*

Incense holders for sale at the Annual Farmer's Market on Martin's Way were just some of the items on display on Wednesday.

6 *Face-Off: Which Party Yields the Power of Personality*
10 *Humans vs Zombies Infects Hamilton Campus*
17 *Making it to Medical School: Part 1*
20 *Hamilton Football Defeats Weslyan 17-7*

Simon Speaks

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Simon got to see first hand how political corruption and uncontrolled capitalism can erode society. From anecdotes about gross government oversight during Hurricane Katrina to the waste caused by the war on drugs in the city of Baltimore, Simon put together a convincing argument for the downfall of the American empire as the rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

"We are acting as if we don't need 10-15 percent of the population in this country," Simon said, referring to the ignorance of high-ranking officials in his own city and on a national level in acknowledging the massive American poverty problem.

His great dissatisfaction with what he witnessed on his beat in Baltimore inspired him, along with a group of other concerned individuals to begin work on The Wire, which has been hailed by critics as one of the best television dramas of all time. The show portrays the life of cops and drug dealers on the mean streets of Baltimore, often borrowing from real life crime stories. Each season of The Wire has provided engaging drama while examining a different part of inner city life, from the difficulties of the Baltimore school system to the world of drug dealers.

"People in Baltimore have really taken to the show, particularly within the black community," said Simon. "Actors from The Wire get complimented by strangers on the streets who will sometimes even invite them up for dinner. Its because we center our drama on what they see as their America and we treat it seriously."

Simon also spoke about the current trends in mainstream media and the decline of professional journalism in recent years. He expressed the concern that the decrease in the number of professional journalists has marked the end of an important "fourth estate" check on governmental credibility on local and federal levels.

"The problem with journalism is not the lack of commentary but that there is less truth seeking and first generation news," he said. "In most cities its like this the bureaucracy is happy with the change because now there is no one looking over their shoulders."

In the end, Simon's lecture had a simple but powerfully compassionate message. In order to survive as a nation, Simon said, "We need to take collective responsibility for the poorest among us."

Student Assembly Talks Utensils, Election Awareness

by Amanda Jordan '11

Student Assembly Correspondent

On September 29, 2008, the Student Assembly further discussed the issue of *The Spectator* endorsing a presidential and vice presidential candidate for the Student Assembly elections in November. A resolution may be voted on next week that would urge the newspaper to refrain from endorsing candidates for any Student Assembly election and encourage *The Spectator* to follow the SA's platform regarding endorsements. However, Student Assembly was also clear to state that they only recommend, not dictate, that the newspaper follow their suggestions. They believe that *The Spectator* should maintain an open dialogue regarding any issues affecting the Student Assembly. They concluded by saying that they do appreciate *The Spectator's* help in increasing awareness about the elections.

Another item on the agenda also concerned *The Spectator*. Specifically, the newspaper is publishing an editorial focused on important issues for the Board of Trustees to consider. Some suggestions from Student Assembly members included making the campus more green, restoring the library and constructing a Cultural Education Center, and addressing the issue of school spirit. Other suggestions from students will be included in the editorial as well.

Additionally, the Student Assembly encourages all students to thank the volunteer members of the Clinton Fire Department. There have been several fire alarms this year already, and many Student Assembly members feel that the student body should do something to thank the Volunteer Fire Department. One suggestion was to create an awareness campaign in order to educate students in ways of not accidentally setting off the fire alarms on campus. A second suggestion was to use a half-time ceremony during a sporting event to thank the members of the Clinton Fire Department. The Student Assembly has not yet decided on a course of action, but urges all students to thank the members of the fire department.

Other items on the agenda consisted of funding decisions and committee reports. The Student Assembly Treasurer reported that $66,000 of the $120,000 budget for this semester has already been spent. The Student Assembly unanimously approved a total of $7,538 in funding for this week to be allocated to various organizations. The Food Committee announced that an air curtain has been installed in Commons to try to resolve the fly problem and that Bon Appetit is currently working on obtaining smaller serving utensils for both dining halls. The Facilities Committee reported that its members will be walking around campus soon to check for any lighting issues and that efforts to fix the flooding problem on campus are underway.

The Diversity and Accessibility Committee announced that the International Bazaar will be held at noon Saturday on the Dunham quad. The Student Interests Committee is working on discussions with Residential Life regarding not making the 21 meal plan mandatory for sophomores and changing the Hill Card curfew time on Thursday nights to allow access into residence halls. Lastly, the ad hoc Technology Committee had its first meeting this past week and discussed issues concerning a suggestion box for Student Assembly on the myHamilton website as well as improving cellular service in Dunham, North, and South. Updates on the committees and the various issues they are working on will be discussed and reported at the meeting next week.

Strategic Planning Reports Appraised

by Russ Doubleday '11

News Writer

Over the past week, the Executive Committee has been meeting openly to discuss the Strategic Plan for the future of the College. On both Monday and Tuesday, Dean of Faculty and member of the Executive Committee Joe Urgo led discussions over the draft of the Plan in front of modest sized audiences interspersed with students and faculty members.

The Executive Committee, aided by eight subcommittees who represent specialized aspects of the college (such as "Athletics" and "Residential Life and Co-curricular Programs") has been working toward a plan since the beginning of 2008. Each subcommittee filed a preliminary report in February, and a follow-up on each was published in June. These addressed most of the concerns that each committee had established previously, and the Executive Committee took them into consideration when writing the first draft of the Strategic Plan.

The draft examines the history of the college from its founding values through today's everyday environment. The open curriculum with a writing and speaking emphasis, as well as the Honor Code standing strong after one hundred years, are major points of focus, and this foundation is being used as a launching point for the future orientation of the college.

The Plan highlights about sixty possible changes for the college to focus on in the next five years. The meetings this week were designed to go over this draft of the plan and hear the student body and faculty's reactions to these highlighted changes for the future.

"The Plan addresses what areas of focus we will have for the next five years," stated Urgo. He went on to contend that the Plan needs focus, because everyone will want numerous things added to it, and that a broad approach would water it down. According to Urgo, about a half a dozen changes to focus on would be ideal for the Plan.

With the recent building flurry on campus already and more projects in the future, some students are looking at other aspects of the school to focus on. "Diversity should definitely be increased on campus," says Matt Nudell '11. "Increased diversity will lead to a more balanced cultural and ethnic community on campus, and it would be nice to have more international students. It's interesting to connect to people our age living across the world." Increased diversity is one of the things on the list for the long-term vision of the college, and several students echoed Nudell's concerns.

PHOTO BY SCOTT BIXBY '11

Dean of Faculty Joe Urgo and President Joan Hinde Stewart preside over a poorly-attended Strategic Planning Community Meeting this past Monday.

Another goal of the Plan is to raise the name and profile of the college by allowing the institution to differentiate itself from the multitude of small liberal arts colleges in the Northeast. The last plan, written in 2002, allowed for the construction of the Science Center and the Kirner-Johnson extension, a more established focus on writing and speaking through the creation of the writing and oral communication centers, and the growth of academic opportunities, especially summer research programs, all additions that may have attracted members of the current student body to enroll at Hamilton. Future endeavors under this Strategic Plan will shape the future direction of the college and attract students to continue coming here.

The Executive Committee has eight members, who are in charge of writing the entire Plan. They are President Joan Stewart, who is the Committee Chair, Dean Urgo, Chairs of the Trustee Planning Committee Susan Skerritt and Steve Sadove, Vice President of Administration and Finance Karen Leach, Student Assembly President Stephen Okin '10, and faculty representatives Sam Pellman and Todd Franklin.

The plan can be viewed in its entirety at www.hamilton.edu/strategicplan. There is also a feedback link on the page which allows all members of the Hamilton community to share their thoughts with the Executive Committee on which things they think are important for the future of the college. The Executive Committee welcomes all comments and encourages students to respond concerning the future of Hamilton College.

Bon Appetite Sponsors the Eat Local Challenge

by Haley Riemer-Peltz '12
NEWS WRITER

The Eat Local Challenge was held nationally in Bon Appétit dining halls during lunch for the fourth year in a row on Tuesday, September 30. All of the items served were grown and produced within a 150-mile radius of campus.

The food came from various local farms, including Purdy & Son Farm in Sherburn, NY; Wagner Farms in Rome, NY; Hilltop Farms in Bridgewater, NY; and Northstar Orchards in Westmoreland, NY. Some of the food served was beef and broccoli, pork, baked beans, corn, eggplant, tomatoes, arugula, apples, grapes, and plums.

"Overall, the day went very well," commented Bon Appétit General Manger, Patrick Raynard. "We were able to expose the Hamilton Community to some wonderful local vendors. We also received some great feed back on many of the products," he continued. Bon Appétit is working to bring some of the local items to campus permanently. They strive to make a lot of their everyday items local.

In addition to what was served in the dining halls, there was a "Local Showcase Tent" on the Dunham Quad featuring all local products.

"The [Local Showcase Tent] at the Eat Local Challenge had some of the best pulled pork I have ever had, rivaling my first love, Piggy Pats. I can always count on upstate NY for great autumn meals," Jason Barth '09 rejoiced, after having experienced the local delights outside of Commons.

Some of you students with undying farm hunger may be wondering, "Why must this glorious homage to local food only happen once a year?" Although there is only one annual Eat Local Challenge, many of the everyday items served in the dining halls are local year round. The fall happens to be the best time of year to hold the Challenge because produce is more abundantly available," explained Raynard.

In the spring, though, Bon Appétit will host a "Low Carbon Diet Day," which will be similar to the Eat Local Challenge. "We try on that day to look at where our food is coming from and what kind of impact it will have on the environment," stated Raynard.

Given that food-related agriculture is responsible for approximately one-third of global warming worldwide, according to the UN, it is imperative that we cut the impact of our food choices.

Additionally, students were encouraged to "go trayless" on Tuesday in order to help avoid wastefulness. Trays often encourage students to take more food than they can eat, just because there is enough room.

Using trays and wasting food adds to our carbon footprint. When uneaten food breaks down in landfills, methane is released, which is an extremely damaging greenhouse gas. Removing trays reduces the lustful temptation to take more food than is needed. Furthermore, not using trays eliminates the need to wash them, significantly reducing water and energy consumption.

Overall, the Eat Local Challenge wound up being a day of fresh, delicious food and environmental friendliness. More information on the Low Carbon Diet Day and future Eat Local Challenges can be found on the Bon Appétit website.

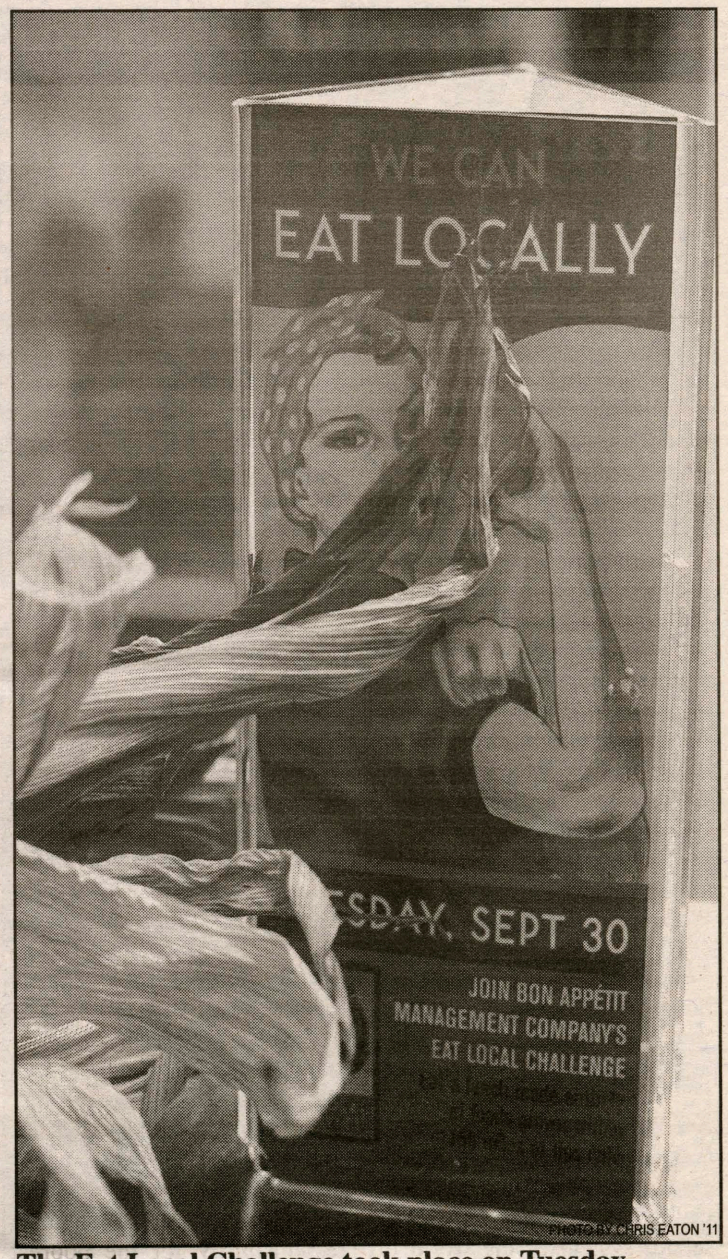

PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11
The Eat Local Challenge took place on Tuesday.

Sigma Lambda Upsilon Celebrates Latina Influence in History and on Hamilton's Campus

by Lizzie Marris '10
NEWS WRITER

Students may have encountered some unfamiliar faces along Martin's Way this past week. Former First Lady of Argentina Eva Perón, artist Ana Mendieta, and labor organizor Luisa Capetillo were among the ten Latina women commemorated on posters set up along Martin's Way by Sigma Lambda Upsilon (SLU), or Señoritas Latinas Unidas, Inc., is a Latina-based multi-cultural national sorority. Stephanie Tafur '10, Hannah Roth '11, and Jattna Amador '11 founded the Hamilton chapter of SLU last year in hopes of bridging the gap between the campus and its Latino community through education and philanthropy.

"The sorority embodies the women we are and want to be," said Tafur. The sorority president.

Every year, SLU chapters nation-wide orchestrate Raices Week on their campuses. The theme of Raices Week 2008 is 'Coming out of the Shadows: Latin American Women Tell HerStory.'

"The point is to bring into the campus's sphere of knowledge Latina history that is not really known or discussed," explained Tafur.

"Raices means 'roots' in Spanish. This week helped us connect with our roots by examining our history and sharing it with our peers," Tafur said. Added Roth, "We got to share our culture and raise awareness of overshadowed issues with the students on campus in fun and creative ways."

The Señoritas kicked off their week of events Sunday, September 28 by showing In the Time of the Butterflies, a Dominican film inspired by the true story of the three Mirabal sisters, who were assassinated for their involvement in a 1960 plot to overthrow Dominican dictator Rafael Trujillo.

"It's a true story, but it's so unknown," said Tafur. Tafur believed opening Raices Week with the movie would ease Hamilton students into exploring these less familiar facets of history. Tuesday, the Hermanas of SLU, joined by fellow students, read books by and about Latin American women to five to ten year old underprivileged girls at the Y Girl organization in Utica. This event was inspired by the SLU's national philanthropic focus on literacy. Señorita and former Hamilton professor Madeleine Lopez spoke Wednesday night in the Science Center about notable Latina and Latin American women who are traditionally overshadowed in dominant accounts of history.

Lopez stressed that Latina history is often mistakenly assumed to be outside of mainstream history, when it is actually an integral part of all history. To round out the week, the Señoritas handed out "sweet facts," or pieces of candy wrapped in informational tidbits regarding Latina and Latin American women, and offered free t-shirts featuring quotes by prominent Latin American women for students to decorate and wear. On Friday, the sorority performed in the BLSU talent show.

Empowering a campus is a daunting task. Students, however, have been overwhelmingly receptive to the information. Jared Pienkos '09 was one of the many students brought into the Raices Week spirit: "As a chemistry major, I really liked seeing the poster of [former Surgeon General of the United States] Antonia Novello on my way to class. I find it really powerful to encounter role models of different cultural and ethnic backgrounds. It's just something most people don't think much about." Sarah Caney '09 thought that Raices Week was "a really good way for underrepresented groups on campus to raise awareness. I just wish there had been more publicity about the events. I feel like a lot of people didn't really know it was going on."

Overall, Tafur, Roth, and Amador feel their efforts were successful: "It has been exciting for us to see our ideas actually discussed and enjoyed. We hope you all have gained as much from Raices Week as we have. We look forward to having Raices Week again next year!"

Senior Gift Kick-off Reception Today in the Science Center Atrium at 5 p.m.
Seniors: Remember to bring your Little Pub ID and a senior friend!

Hamilton Number One in Media Momentum

by Eric Kuhn '09
Senior Editor

The Global Language Monitor (GLM) unveiled last week their first-ever College Rankings by Internet Analysis, ranking America's colleges and universities according to "their appearance in the global print and electronic media, as well as on the Internet and throughout the Blogosphere." Hamilton College was ranked #1 in media momentum and #11 in overall media ranking among liberal arts colleges.

GLM documents, analyzes and tracks trends in language the world over, with a particular emphasis upon Global English. In a statement to the press, President and Chief Word Analyst at GLM Paul JJ Payack said the "analysis is a way of seeing the schools through the eyes of the world at large."

The top 15 liberal arts colleges were ranked as follows: Colorado College, Williams College, University of Richmond, Middlebury College, Wellesley College, Bucknell University, Amherst College, Oberlin College, Vassar College, Pomona College, Hamilton College, Union College, Swarthmore College, Colgate University and Bard College.

Schools were also ranked according to "media momentum" defined as having the largest change in media citations over the last year. Here, Hamilton College ranked number one followed by Pomona, Skidmore, Bard, Gettysburg, Sewanee (University of the South), Furman, Colby, Connecticut College and Colgate University.

Hamilton professors who have been quoted frequently in the media during the last year are Maurice Isserman (History), Philip Klinkner (Government), Cheng Li (Government), Ann Owen (Economics), Dan Chambliss (Sociology), Ambassador Ned Walker (Government), Frank Anechiarico (Government), Doug Raybeck (Anthropology;), Shelley McConnell (Government). Dean of Admissions Monica Inzer has also garnered some press attention. Many current students and alumni have also been in the news. Most recently, alum Jon Bellona has received national media attention for the Run for the Fallen.

For more information, go to www.languagemonitor.com.

PHOTO COURTESY DAVE STEADMAN '03

Members of Hamilton's Alumni Leadership Training Committee (HALT) met yesterday in the Dwight Lounge with the Vice President for Communications and Development Dick Tantillo. HALT is comprised of about 50 seniors interested in being very involved with Hamilton after graduation.

Senior Gift to be Announced Today in Wellin Atrium

by Kara Labs '09
NEWS EDITOR

Today the senior class will announce the senior gift at 5 p.m. in the Wellin Atrium. The final decisions were based on the results of an e-mail poll of the senior class. They narrowed the choices down to five: Sustainability Project Fund, which would directly help reduce Hamilton's carbon footprint; the Community Service Memorial Prize Scholarship in memory of Andrew Sheridan, awarded to a student who exemplifies wonderful community service; Outdoor Recycling Bins; the Class of 2009 student space in the new ELS building; and the Senior Night Fund which would provide entertainment, beverages and food for future classes on senior night at the pub.

On Monday the class of 2009 voted, but the results were too close to call, so on Wednesday there was a run-off vote. The two gifts in question are the Sustainability Project Fund and the Community Service Memorial Prize Scholarship. The final decision will be announced today in the science center atrium by the senior gift committee and chairs, Steph Ryder '09 and Stuart Lombardi '09.

There have been a range of feasible and some unfeasible gifts that previous senior classes have given to Hamilton. The class of 2008 had a very successful campaign with the Environmental Endowment Fund. The class of 2003 created a Memorial Prize Scholarship in memory of three of their classmates. Other gifts have included: the beautification under the Martin's Way Bridge, a statue of the Hamilton Continental, benches around campus, the high ropes course and an endowment for the fitness center.

SJI Presents Cultural Ed. Center Petition to Strategic Planning

by Daniel Steinman '12
News Writer

This past week, members of the Social Justice Initiative (SJI) were actively promulgating their proposal for the construction of a Cultural Education Center on campus; they attended a Strategic Planning Community meeting on Monday, September 30, gave a Presentation on Tuesday, October 1, and organized a teach-in on the topics of "Space and Identity" outside KJ on Wednesday, October 2.

There was wide discussion at the Strategic Planning Community meeting about Hamilton's broader stance on diversity. Anthropology Professor Bonnie Urciuoli said this is an area in which Hamilton is "twenty years behind" many comparable colleges that have cultural education centers.

Dean Urgo claimed that diversity is "one of the highest priorities of the institution" and that the first draft of a plan addressing diversity issues would be completed by the end of this month. He explained that many subcommittees have been a part of devising a plan and that "many people have been involved."

At the meeting on Tuesday, Kenya Lee '10 expressed that the number of students that attended the meeting was a clear indication that addressing cultural diversity issues should be a high priority, moving forward. The group's goal is to obtain a commitment by the college administration and a timetable for when changes would be made.

Lyndra Vassar '09, in attendance on Tuesday, described that she has only found three forums in which to discuss cultural minority issues: Africana Studies classes, Hispanic Studies classes and a Black-Hispanic Student Union meetings. She stated, "I feel as if there is a way in which the CEC could be integrated into that [well-rounded, liberal arts] education."

Students from SJI argued strongly against the idea that a cultural education center would benefit only a minority group of students. "When I think of students who have a stake in a cultural center on campus, I don't just think of minority students," Lee articulated. "I see the CEC as a place where students can share what they gain on their experiences abroad. I think it would be a valuable resource [to all students.] I don't see it as self-segregating; I see it as all inclusive." She voiced her opinion that cultural education at Hamilton should be co-curricular.

SJI is circulating a petition around the student body urging the Board of Trustees to make building a Cultural Education Center a priority. According to Geoffrey Hicks '09, an active member of SJI, the petition currently has almost 500 signatures from students.

"We hope the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees will begin to care about the concerns of students who feel they don't belong here," Hicks said.

Wednesday's teach-in included lectures by Government Professor Peter Cannavo and Africana Studies Professor Angel Nieves on the benefits of an identified, reserved space for cultural education progress. SJI members facilitated questions and discussions with the professors afterwards.

Amy Tannenbaum '10 was the primary organizer of the event. She described the college's need to build a structure dedicated to cultural education as "a means to an end." Tannenbaum stated her belief that the open dialogue allowed by a centralized, "permanent safe space" would promote understanding that would "radiate to the rest of the campus."

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THE SPECTATOR

Dear Trustees of Hamilton College:

On behalf of the student body, the members of *The Spectator* Editorial Board would like to welcome you back home. We hope the weekend will include reunions, memories and some quality time in the Pub. In anticipation of your arrival, *The Spectator* Editorial Board solicited feedback from the student body regarding which issues and concerns they most wish to share with you.

In recent months students have engaged in discussion and debate about the new Strategic Planning Committee and its future decisions. Many students worry that Committee decisions will not be influenced or catalyzed by their needs and concerns. While *The Spectator* has always encouraged students to participate in all aspects of student life, we now invite the Trustees to engage actively with us. For example, we applaud A.G. Lafley's decision to hold a discussion with students in K.J. Commons upon his arrival. He listened carefully to us, and he attentively took notes about students' opinions on which dorms are best, which athletic fields should be renovated and how the career center is contending with the current economic problems. This weekend is a great opportunity for you to emulate Lafley's example and meet with us to pick our brains. As you know, Hamilton students have strong opinions.

Students' deep concern with environmental awareness and action has materialized as the Grenergy Initiative, the recently installed community garden, the 2008 Senior Gift Environmental Endowment Fund, Hamilton's Environmental Action Group, the purchase of renewable energy, and the installation of sustainable features in the Science Center and Skenandoa House. The student body is constantly brainstorming about strategies by which we may reduce our carbon footprint. We ask you to continue on the path to making Hamilton Buff, Blue and Green.

While most students agree that a "Green Hamilton" is ideal, we find it imperative to report to you that there continues to be heated debate about the Cultural Education Center. The majority of us have yet to decide whether the center will actually increase diversity or simply waste valuable resources while further stratifying the student body. The debate is strong and ongoing and we encourage you to stay active and informed as it continues.

Furthermore, students have acknowledged that the assignment of subgroups to dormitories (i.e. all first-year housing) as suggested by the Strategic Planning Committee might not create a cohesive atmosphere that allows for interaction and integration across racial, cultural, gender, sexual, socioeconomic, or religious lines.

Finally, professors have been actively engaged in the conversation about Hamilton's future. Many have stressed the importance of building on our strong community. You had strong ties with professors, administrators and staff as students and realized the importance of these relationships. We ask that each of you remember this special Hamilton bond through the course of this weekends meetings, and continue to nurture it in your actions as a board.

The Hamilton community has so much to offer. Although we have tried to provide you with a glimpse of the student perspective, we recognize that the opinions and needs of the student body are too many to fit in one editorial. So instead of being confined to obligatory meetings, we urge you, the trustees, to take some time out of your schedules and place yourselves back in the shoes of a student. Ride a golden bike, have a meal at the diner, help harvest at the community farm, sit in on a class, warm up with an Opus cookie or have a drink at the Little Pub. Walk down memory lane and take advantage of the many diverse aspects that comprise the place that we recognize as home: Hamilton College.

by Kara Labs '09
on behalf of *The Spectator*

THE SPECTATOR

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Letters to the Editor Policy

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INSIGHTS & IDEAS

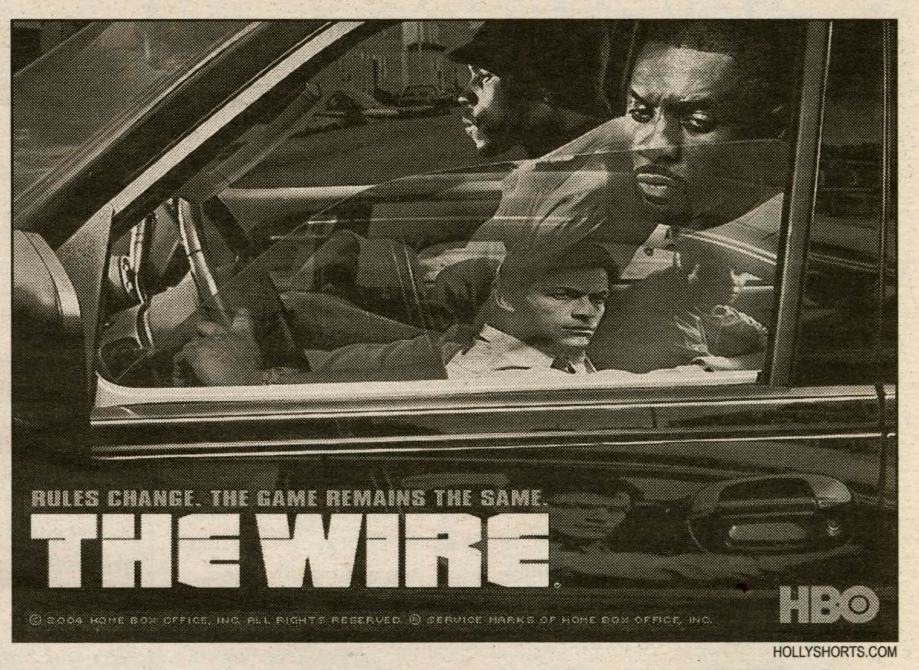
Get Up On the Wire, Then Listen Carefully

by Will Weisblatt '11
Insights and Ideas Writer

We live in an age where most people watch TV to escape from real life and indulge in some fantasy and sensation for an hour or two. Viewers tune out their problems and dance with the stars, cheer on professional athletes, and gasp at Michael Scott's social ineptitude. After all, who would want to turn on the TV and watch a mirror image of their life, with its gentle ups and downs, its boring stretches and tedious hours? Moreover, who wants to watch the periodic suffering and pain that is, in varying degrees, a part of everyone's life? Popular TV rarely contains this aspect of life, and viewers far from demand it.

So what kind of TV show would get bogged down in city budget numbers, fluctuating crime rates, institutional apathy, and third grade reading scores? Most TV shows feature the triumph of the individual over the institution. Why would anyone want to watch the institution constantly grind the individual to dust? The Wire, an HBO character study and human drama shows us that people show their best and worst emotions when they are in the jaws of bureaucracy. Using Baltimore as a backdrop and a stage, The Wire features more than thirty professional and amateur actors in recurring roles. Their roles span the entire spectrum of professions and social niches: policemen, drug dealers, politicians, lawyers, addicts, journalists, dock workers, and everything in between. Thus, The Wire adopts the city of Baltimore as an arena of battle that pits the will of the individual against that of the institution.

The show's creators, David Simon and Ed Burns, are themselves inextricable from the city of Baltimore. Simon, a journalist for the Baltimore Sun for twelve years, endeavors to capture the mood of the city and the correct mannerisms of its citizens. Speaking about his show, Simon opines that The Wire is "really about the American city, and about how we live together. It's about how institutions have an effect on individuals, and how ... whether you're a cop, a longshoreman, a drug dealer, a politician, a judge [or] lawyer, you are ultimately compromised and must contend with whatever institution you've committed to." Burns is a former Baltimore city police detective and public school teacher, and his expertise and knowledge shine through, especially in the show's meticulous depiction of the inner workings of state bureaucracies such as the police precinct and the classroom. The fact is that the show is fresh and unique mostly because its creators are unusually worldly and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THE WIRE
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lived their lives primarily outside of the television business. This allowed them to ignore many conventions and formulas that are prevalent in mainstream TV.

What really makes the show riveting, while also straying from the beaten path of the triumphant, superlative individual, is its ability to balance realism with entertainment. The show captures the full range of emotion, but in moderation and in perspective. Every scene will not make you cry, gape, guffaw, or even blink. Some scenes are mundane and matter-of-fact. Entire episodes leave the audiences' faces unchanged, stuck in the half-grimace of unbroken attention. This is genius of the show: it maintains its engrossing nature without compromising its thematic realism.

Face Off: Which Party Yields the Power of Personality?

Democratic

by Will Leubsdorf '10
Insights and Ideas Writer

Whether we like it or not, candidates' personalities have become a critical component of American politics. Politicians win or lose based on voter perceptions of their character and their personal appeal. Is this a fair or rational means of selecting public leaders? It depends on the degree to which these factors affect voting decisions.

Personality is relevant when trying to judge a candidate's suitability for elected office. Personality directly affects a candidate's judgment and how they approach solving problems. Evaluating a candidate's judgment is critical for determining what kind of elected official they will become. Voters should consider a candidate's judgment as a substitute for determining how they will approach unexpected situations that they cannot foresee when they cast their ballots.

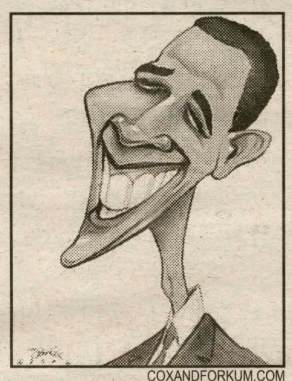
The current Presidential election between Barack Obama and John McCain illustrate this perfectly. John McCain has shown over the last months a worrisome impulsive streak, while Obama has exhibited a deliberative and statesmanlike approach to decision-making. McCain's selection of Sarah Palin as his running mate illustrates the danger posed by McCain's judgment. Palin was not vetted until the days leading up to the announcement of her selection, and as a result the McCain campaign spent the two weeks after that announcement sending researchers to Alaska to research her past. Palin was selected because of McCain's political needs at the moment; he disregarded the ramifications of having a horribly unqualified person a heartbeat away from the Presidency. Barack Obama's vice presidential search, on the other hand, was deliberative and organized. In the end, he selected the indisputably qualified Joe Biden.

Last week McCain "suspended" his campaign suddenly to focus on the economic crisis, swooping into Washington to supposedly help the negotiations between Democrats and Republicans about the bailout deal. This bizarre move antagonized Democrats, encouraged the House Republicans resistance, and slowed down negotiations of the deal. McCain's intervention was ineffective in pushing members of his own party to support the bailout deal, as two thirds of House Republicans voted against it when the bill failed to pass on Monday.

In contrast with McCain's erratic and impulsive actions, Obama acted coolly and responsibly during the crisis. He stayed above the fray, attempting to avoid injecting Presidential politics into a volatile situation. Obama stayed cool under pressure, while McCain cracked under the weight of his failing campaign and inability to lead his party.

While personality is a factor voters should consider, it should not be the most important one. The most important part of evaluating candidates should be considering their policy position, where exactly they stand on the issues. A pleasant personality is no substitute for real solutions to the problems we face. Barack Obama's charisma or Sarah Palin's attractiveness will not solve the economic crisis or end the war in Iraq.

Likewise, family issues are mostly irrelevant in evaluating candidates for public office. Politicians and their families are just as flawed and human as everyone else, and judging them with some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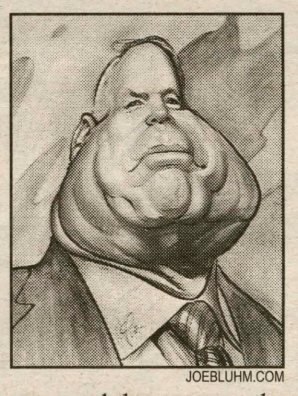
higher standard is unfair. The public and private spheres are two distinct entities, which should remain separated. With so much at stake in this election, it's silly to focus on something like Bristol Palin's pregnancy or Michelle Obama's senior thesis. It is irrelevant and a distraction from the serious and necessary discussion of the Presidential candidate's positions and judgment. Voters should consider a candidate's personality in conjunction with their stances on the issues, not whether their child pulled a Juno MacGuff.

Republican

by Liz Farrington '10
Insights and Ideas Writer

Republicans have been up in arms in recent months about Democratic nominee Barack Obama's "cult of personality." While it is true that a cult of personality is undesirable in any remotely democratic government, it is also inevitable, and valuable information can emerge from an emphasis on personality. Mannerisms and methods of speech, sense of humor or fashion, and favorite color are probably accessible in Obama's YouTube videos or on his Facebook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page, and these are not the elements of personality that contribute meaningfully to the political discourse. But many characteristics that we eagerly classify as personality traits, such as religious inclinations, honesty, and personal integrity, should retain their value even in our relativistic minds.

In this way, Sarah Palin's nomination to the Vice Presidency has opened the door for easy charges of hypocrisy and inconsistency to be leveled against Republicans. How could the party that backed Kenneth Starr so vehemently insist that Palin's personal life is untouchable? Beyond the necessity of such political games—and the telling willingness to play them on both sides—there remain underlying truths that should inform the partisan efforts. It now appears that either conservatives lied when they claimed Clinton's moral character impacted his leadership, or some are overreacting to the media's scrutiny of Palin.

Ignoring for a moment Clinton's criminality, it is still unavoidable that conservatives have made the "moral character" argument in the past. Traditionally, conservatives reject identity politics but embrace character politics, precisely because traits such as honesty and integrity do have a pivotal place in our system. It is for this reason that we have rightfully been made aware that Palin knowingly gave birth to a child with Down's syndrome and that John McCain endured torture for years as a prisoner of war rather than betray a code. These actions demonstrate the adherence of these two people to an ethical standard even in times of trial, and those who run for high office after having been thus tested can reasonably merit our trust on those issues.

At times, the rabid defense of Palin crosses the line into identity politics and acceptance of superfluous personality traits as legitimate additions to the discourse. Charges of sexism are the most ready answer to criticism directed at Palin, which leads conservatives like Heather Mac Donald of City Journal to suspect that Palin's nomination was simply a "diversity ploy."

"There are, alas, many women who are pathetic enough to put gender above politics, for whom a candidate's stand on substantive issues matters less than her reproductive plumbing," she writes. Mac Donald asks that Republicans not abandon their principles and the idea of moral character for the sake of short-term success with this brand of personality.

Fortunately for Mac Donald, Palin agrees and insists that she be given an opportunity to sink or swim without the crutch of identity politics.

"Fair or unfair, [sexism] is there; I think that's reality, and I think it's a given; I think people can just accept that [a woman] is going to be under that sharper microscope. So be it. Work harder. Prove yourself to an even greater degree," Palin said. If she manages to maintain this stance for the remainder of the campaign, it will grant voters far greater insight into the important elements of her personality than the recent news item detailing her purchase of red pumps from Naughty Monkey Footwear. Likewise, while the American public has a legitimate desire to understand more about Barack Obama's character, perhaps we could make do without the knowledge that he enjoys Stevie Wonder and "loafing with kids," whosoever's children they might be.

The Economic Crisis: Why Bail Out a Broken System?

by Sam Gomez '10
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS WRITER

As Congress returns on Thursday from a two day break for Rosh Hashanah, Americans across the nation will have to face the looming financial crisis. Economists and Federal Reserve officials warned last week that if the proposed $700 billion dollar bailout package that was being rushed through its various committees was defeated, the U.S. would face an imminent economic crash.

Well, the bill was not passed in the House; as a result on Monday the Dow Jones Industrial Average plummeted 778 points, the biggest single-day loss in history. Investors frantically tried to pull out of what they believed could be a new stock market crash. Black Monday, however, would only be the beginning, or so Federal Reserve officials and Wall Street affiliated legislators would have you believe.

The fact of the matter is this: for eight years now we have been facing less and less economic regulation in all sectors, including the securities and lending industries. The sudden financial crisis of the last two weeks was not sudden at all; millions of Americans have been slipping deeper into debt due to adjustable rate lending and credit card debt for years. The laissez faire attitude that favors an unregulated and unbridled free market has once again proven to be disastrous. Because of shoddy lending practices and a belief that US markets have the potential for limitless growth, many of the major investment banks and lending institutions have allowed their assets to include billions in "virtual money," or money that only exists in digital debts and accrued interest. We have already spent hundreds of billions of dollars trying to save financial institutions from collapse, and according to the Secretary of the Treasury Henry Paulson, "More is needed."

The problem was illustrated by Democratic Congressman Jim Marshall in a recent article he wrote on his position on the $700 billion dollar bailout: "Some politicians -- and a few economists -- would say that America is drunk on credit and just needs to go cold turkey. But it's more accurate to say we're addicted to credit. Too much credit. Good credit, bad credit, anything that lets us live the high life. We have mistaken growth in the value of financial paper for real economic growth."

The implications of this problem for average Americans have been clear for some time now. Housing prices around the country have been dropping in the past two years, and the lending market is becoming distorted. Instead of improving regulation and Congressional oversight of lending practices-- practices that have proven themselves as vital to the strength of the US economy-- legislators have consistently chosen to ignore the fundamental problems and instead pass legislation that bails out financial companies (see Bear Stearns, AIG etc.), rewarding them for their unsafe and reckless practices over the last few years.

Will we simply saddle future generations with the debts and environmental sins of our time?

If this bailout package was passed by Congress and signed into law, we would be perpetuating what is essentially a broken system. The scramble to get this legislation passed is also a negative. It is common sense that a hastily constructed plan is not structurally sound. As Marilyn Musgrave, Republican Congresswoman, and hardcore conservative, said, "We didn't get into this mess in 72 hours and we won't get out of it in 72 hours."

By agreeing to take on this debt today, the US leadership would be saddling future generations with the debt of current Wall Street fat cats. We would be propping up a house of cards with hundreds of billions of dollars simply so that a few in the top 10 percent of wealthiest Americans can continue to operate as the heads of mammoth banks and financial institutions. They would call this "providing liquidity" but it essentially would be infusing Wall Street with so much capital that it will continue to function as if there are no underlying problems. This market crash is simply what those with the most political capital and the biggest armies of lobbyists are afraid of. There is no way to prevent the inevitable collapse. The only responsible choice that we, as a nation, can make is to let free markets be free, and allow them to hit rock bottom if need be. The subsequent restructuring will be stronger, better, and more egalitarian.

I am not trying to say that a lack of action on the part of Congress would be good for the American people. This financial crisis will have wide-reaching implications for all Americans. We are already in a recession, and unemployment has been steadily climbing all year. Because of the events of the last week, there is essentially a credit freeze. It is almost impossible to get a loan for a car or a house. As many have noticed, their 401ks and IRAs have been hit hard by the downturn in many key markets. The legislature should focus on the individuals who John McCain called the "fundamentals of the American economy," when crafting a bill designed to keep the economy from grinding to a halt. Normal folks should be subsidized by government funds. However, the answer is not simply to pump more money into the system that has created this problem. This would further distort the markets that have led to this crisis. What is needed is a fundamental change in how the government deals with these financial problems. Increase in oversight and regulation, establishment of transparency and credibility in the sphere of financial regulation, as well as concerted efforts by the government to spend in key sectors of the economy will be the answer to this long and deep recession.

In the 1930s, FDR's New Deal established an alphabet soup of various governmental organizations with the sole aim of promoting American prosperity. A similar regime of programs aimed towards providing green and alternative energies to the American people is an imperative in the next 10 to 15 years if the global climate crisis is to be averted.

Instead of spending billions to take on bad loans, the US government should be focused on pumping those billions into the base of the American economy while building a green and sustainable future for all Americans. Make sure that your representatives know your views on these important issues and, most importantly, make sure that the candidate you vote for in November has a clear and concrete plan to steer the country through the Scylla and Charybdis of global economic meltdown and the climate crisis. This is the challenge of our time, and quite possibly the most important time in the history of the country.

The question remains, will we simply saddle future generations with the debts and environmental sins of our time? Or will now be the time that Americans stand up and clean up all of the messes, financial and ecological, of the 20th century?

Thumbs up

Alumni Weekend: After the young-adult Hamiltonians finish gorging on money in the rich waters of the real world, they eventually return to their ancestral breeding grounds to mate.

The Cider Mill: Yes, those donuts are delicious, aren't they. Good thing they instituted Trayless Tuesdays; I heard the senior boys starting to whisper that they thought you were fat.

The International Bazaar: Well, it looks like my time in that Turkish prison was worth it now that I can sell that "coffee."

If I was 100% sure I could get away with it, I would kill every member of capoeira. This is not a joke.

Thumbs down

Stealing thousands of dollars worth of solar panels from the Glen House: Not only do I hope you get arrested, but I hope the other prisoners rape you for jacking *solar panels*.

When John McCain was a POW in Vietnam, did it involve having botox forcibly injected into his jowls?

Campus safety breaking up parties on Facebook: Worst wall post ever.

No longer being able to do laundry with quarters: Sorry Mom, I couldn't do laundry because I spent the 50 bucks you put on my Hill Card at a vending machine while I was drunk.

WHCL: Turn the music down, I can't enjoy the hissing static.

Who Cares?

Farm to Fork: If someone can tell me what to do with a gourd besides smash it against a darkside dorm, I'm all ears.

Martin's Way vendors: What good are gypsies who don't sell gypsy tears?

KDO Mask Party: A KDO sister's best chance to get laid since before pledging.

Collapse of the Bee Colonies: Finally I have a reason to end my pathetic life.

ATX/PBX party: If I knew it was going to snow that much I wouldn't have worn my short shorts.

by Steve Allinger '09, Jason Brown '09, Anthony DelConte '10, & Matt Fellows '09

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Ms. Brown's argument in favor of unrestricted peer-to-peer networking on campus is riddled with logical fallacies and poor analogies. Right off the bat, Ms. Brown tells the reader that "I come form a family that equates music with air: you cannot live without it, do not even try." This is a very poor analogy. The moral basis for intellectual property laws holds that every person is entitled to the product of his or her mind. Air is not a human creation. No one can rightfully claim to own it. Ms. Brown adds that she does not see a problem in burning CDs for friends. But peer-to-peer networking--the practice that college and govenrment laws aim to prevent, allows thousands to have access to coprywrighted material. It is a much more serious violation of intellectual property laws.

Ms. Brown notes that Hamilton's policies have forced her to stop illegally sharing music.This only speaks to the effectiveness of the policies, which align with equally justifiable, though not nearly as effective, government regulations. Most detestably, however, Ms. Brown suggests that RIAA statistics regarding the financial cost of peer-to-peer sharing for the record industry are "faulty" and "unsound," but she fails to offer any contradictive evidence, only suggesting that the reader "check their math." She does not even say what the numbers are!

Finally, Ms. Brown states that peer-to-peer sharing is justified because artists do not make most of their money from record sales (record companies do take most of the profits). But this point ignores the entire moral basis for intellectual property law. In this wonderful country we live in, no one can stake claim the product of someone else's mind. The idea that we do not retain that control over our intellectual and creative products is only compatible with a society that completely ignores the concept of individuality. Artists have the option of offering their music for free (and some, including Nine Inch Nails and Radiohead) have done so. But the decision must be left to the artists. Peer-to-peer sharing violates the spirit of individual moral autonomy we (should) hold highly in this country.

-Lachlan Markay

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Saad Chaudhry's article last week on the dangers of various drugs. In it, Mr. Chaudhry presented a 2007 British study ranking Alcohol fifth, well above drugs such as LSD, Anabolic Steroids, and Ecstasy, among others. Though I am not disputing the results of David Nutt's report, it is somewhat ludicrous to even raise the question of whether these rankings should be reflected in Hamilton's points system. Alcohol, as a legal substance, clearly presents more unique test results than that of illegal drugs such as ecstasy or LSD. It is considerably easier to collect data about alcohol abuse, and there is a much larger demographic of people to survey. Also, in presenting Nutt's case, Mr. Chaudhry does not separate the vastly different conditions of alcohol use and abuse. I would find it hard to believe that drinking a few beers during a football game is considerably more dangerous than taking a few ecstasy pills or "dropping" acid. There is a reason that laws exist as they do in America. Similarly, Hamilton has developed its point system to reflect the law. Many students at Hamilton can drink legally, and will be undeterred by this lone British study. If anything, Mr. Chaudhry's article would encourage others to use ecstasy and LSD, as they are apparently "more dangerous" then the casual Friday night beer pong game.

Sincerely,
Dave Lichtstein '10

Ask Mister Morals

A look at drunken hookups and dealing with arrogance

I have known a girl for quite some time and we have always been pretty friendly. Recently I learned from my friends that she really likes me. I, however, am not really interested in her. My dilemma began this past weekend at one of the Annex parties. It was pretty late in the night when she came up to me and asked me to dance. I was a little drunk and really bored so I went for it, and we ended up hooking up on the dance floor and then later on that night in her room. Like I said earlier, I have no real interest in her and now am not sure what to do about the situation. Should I just ignore it and hope it all goes away or just be honest with her at the possible risk of hurting her feelings?

"Ignoring it and hoping it all goes away," is a strategy best suited for less serious situations, like the plunging stock market or global warming. However, it seems as though you hardly need my advice since you have already ascertained the two possible courses of action you might take (and the likely outcomes of each.) Given this girl's attraction towards you, pretending you didn't hook up will provoke misunderstanding at the very least and resentment at the very worst. Tell her how you feel. While this will hurt her feelings, you are obligated, especially because you're already friends, not to lead her on.

How does one deal with arrogance? Let's consider this for a minute: if you think that you are in fact better than people, should you pretend not to be and pretend to think people are interesting nonetheless? Should you lie to yourself? Isn't that going against how you really feel? You can't really help how you feel, can you? And why should you - because society says so?

This is a little more philosophical than the questions I normally handle, but I'll take a stab at it nonetheless. Actually, I won't because I'm obviously so much more intelligent than the author of this question that it simply wouldn't be worth my time.

Fine, fine, let's accept the premise that you are, in fact, "better" than everyone you associate with. One way of grappling with this reality may be, as you muse, to lie to yourself about your superiority. This is a bad long term strategy since you'll have a harder and harder time convincing yourself you aren't that much better than everyone else every time you, I don't know, pitch another perfect game of IM softball or recite the ABC's backwards when you're drunk.

You're right, you can't help how you feel. If, however, you constantly find yourself bored, you might try to reorient your path here at Hamilton. Think the classes you are taking aren't challenging enough? Take a higher level or experiment with different subjects. Finding yourself dissatisfied with your friends? Join a new club or start hanging out with different people. At the very least, you'll gain some perspective.

Mistreating people simply because you think you're better than them is not an acceptable solution, however. Your own superiority (real or imagined) is a personal issue; don't burden others with it.

Mister Morals is a column devoted to helping resolve the ethical dilemmas of Hamilton students.

Do you have a dilemma for Mister Morals? E-mail questions to Adam Vorchheimer at avorchhe@hamilton.edu. All submissions will remain strictly confidential.

Here at Hamilton we like to play a game called Humans vs Zombies.
Uuuggghhh
Are those people Zombies?
No, those are humans who haven't slept, eaten, gone to class or showered because they're afraid of being eaten.

Cartoon by James Grebey '12
Staff Cartoonist

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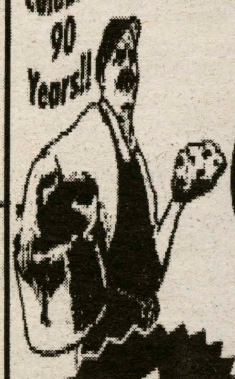

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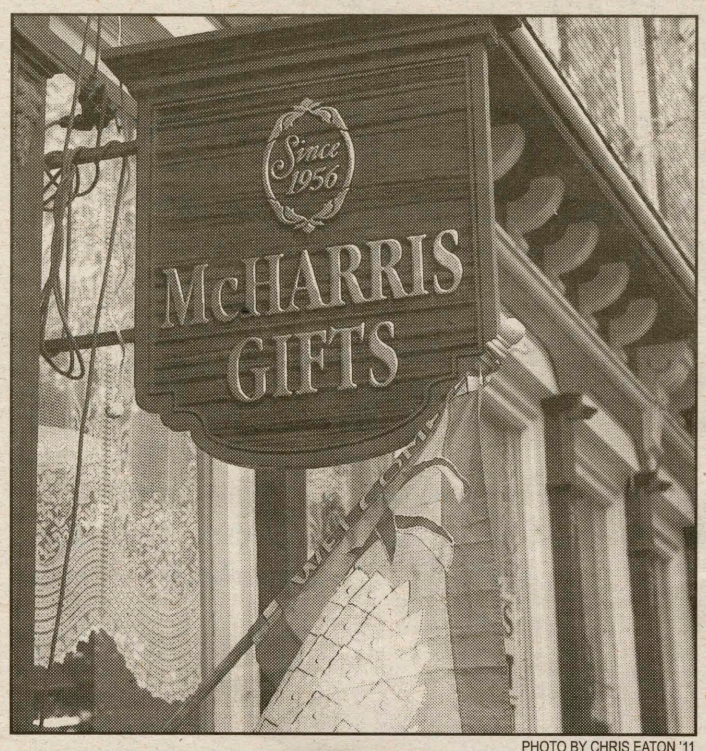


PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

"McHarris Gifts is the epitome of Clinton's charm."

By Lily Gillespie '12
FEATURES WRITER

In my trips down into Clinton since coming to Hamilton, I have realized that although there are many words to describe this little village, there is one which comes most readily to mind: charming. McHarris Gifts is the epitome of this small-town charm. The storefront itself is reminiscent of a 1920s clothing emporium. Inside is an array of gifts to suit virtually every need, taste, age, and price range. There is a large assortment of jewelry, both for children and adults, knick-knacks that any mother would love, even delectable-looking cake and cookie mixes from the Barefoot Contessa, the baby of chef Giada deLaurentis. As well, if you were ever feeling like you just never get enough of Christmas, they sell any number of Christmas decorations

Now gentlemen, I can imagine a small gift store doesn't do a whole lot for you, but they also sell a slew of cards for every occasion in the event that you ever feel inclined to be lovely and tell mom you miss her. McHarris' is also very receptive to Hamilton students, and we receive a discount on everything except Hamilton apparel. McHarris' also understands the stress of our busy lives up on the Hill: they created Gift Pack, a treat parents can order for their students at particularly dreaded times of the semester, or to celebrate a special day. The baskets are hand-delivered to campus for the students to pick up.

PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

McHarris' has been in its current form as a gift store since 1994, when the McHarris family purchased it. Although the store has only been in its current ownership for 14 years, owner Linda McHarris, has seen great growth in Clinton, particularly in the past three years, something that seemed to be a welcome and positive change in the community. When I spoke with Linda, she echoed Tom, of Tom's Natural Foods, and Mimi, of the Cider Mill, in her love of the customers who come into her store. Linda also spoke of how she meets people from around the country and the world because of the diverse Hamilton population. However, regardless of all of our wonderful worldliness here at Hamilton, there is nothing like the support of the people who live in your community. Linda extolled the network of people in Clinton who help each other in the true small-town fashion. The more I see of Clinton and the warmth of the people who live here, the more I like this tiny village. It is a rare thing to find a community of people who feel so connected to each other, and who are, at the same time, so welcoming of the more transient members of the community. So, I must say I have absolutely found one more place worth getting off the Hill for.

Hours
Mon.-Fri.: 9:00-8:00
Sat.: 10:00-6:00
Sun.: 11:00-4:00

PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

Hamilton students receive a discount on everything except Hamilton apparel.

Humans vs. Zombies Infects Hamilton Campus

By Nora Grenfell '12
FEATURES WRITER

Last Sunday, instead of completing my English reading, I opted to watch the complete annihilation of every human on my floor by the Zombie population. My dorm erupted in a swell of chaos, strategizing, and subterfuge usually reserved for Friday nights.

Humans vs. Zombies has besieged the Hill this year as never before. The entire campus has been affected by the phenomenon, with those not participating unable to resist watching the ambushes take place when students make the mistake of leaving the sanctuary of the Science Center. The rules are incredibly complex, and the structure of the game serves to occupy participants both mentally and physically. "It added paranoia to the campus, but it was fun," said Caitlin Tuten-Rhodes '12, a recently deceased Zombie.

The Zombies have gained a clear advantage at this point in the game, though the remaining several dozen humans have succeeded in "starving" several zombies. In order for a zombie to "starve" it has to go two days without a kill. The game is becoming increasingly harder for the zombies due to the lack of human prey and the determination of the remaining members of "the resistance."

In addition to the chaos of the day-to-day game, the players have the option of attending "missions," where humans and zombies team up in an attempt to gain an advantage over one another. The Zombies won the G-road mission, reaching their destination before the humans, but the humans successfully fortified Minor Theatre against the Horde on Tuesday night.

PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

"Humans vs. Zombies has besieged the Hill this year as never before."

Students have mixed views on the game. "I think it's dumb," said a first year, who wished to remain anonymous. "It's kind of annoying when people are running around and screaming outside my door. But I guess it's fun for whoever wants to do it."

However, Humans vs. Zombies has been applauded by some for allowing a broader demographic of Hamilton students to get involved in a mass social event. "We have close to 200 people playing. Normally college stuff wouldn't be this big," said Harry Chan '12.

Mike Bieber '12, remarked, "It's a cool way to socialize. Unless you want to join a sport, this is the only team activity you can do."

Added Ryan Park '12, "it's something new."

As of now there is no clear end in sight, but we can cross our fingers for an epic "last stand" like the one that took place last year at Bundy. You can check the progress of the game at hvzhamilton.com.

Game Description

Courtesy of
Andrew Boddorff '10

There are two sides, Humans and Zombies. The Human team's (The Resistance) object is to survive the zombie invasion. To do this Humans are armed with a Nerf Gun (or balled up socks used as projectiles). If a human hits a zombie with a nerf dart of balled up sock, the zombie is stunned and may not "eat" (tag) a human for fifteen minutes. Humans are identified by a bandana worn around the arm at all times (except in safe zones).

The Zombie team's (The Horde) objective is to turn all the humans into zombies. This is done by tagging a human player. A zombie must eat a human player every 48 hours or else he starves and is eliminated from the game. A Zombie is identified by a bandana around the head. The game ends when either all the humans are turned into zombies or all the zombies are dead.

Hamilton: At Ease

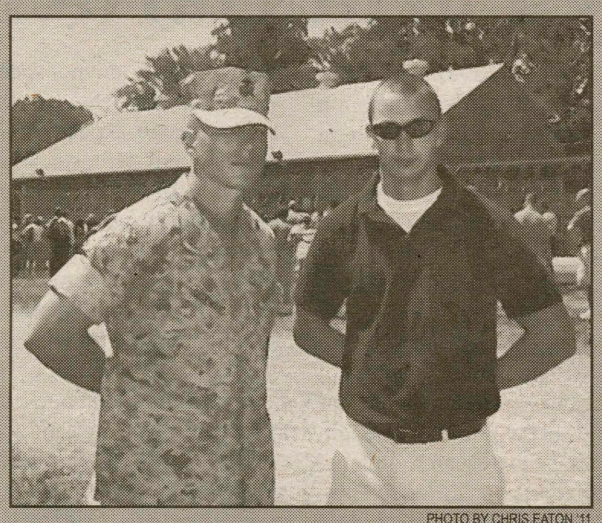


PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

Scott Brewer '09 and Jono Peters '10 are members of the Unites States Marine Corps.

By Elizabeth Kosar '10
Features Writer

You may have seen them in the fitness center, lifting weights that weigh far more than most freshmen girls. Or maybe you have spotted them in class providing a perspective you really hadn't considered. Or maybe you just met them randomly. In any case you've probably met either Scott Brewer or Jono Peters. While you might have known that these two men were members of the United States Marine Corps, you might not have realized just how extraordinary their commitment is.

The program of which these gentlemen are a part is extremely unique. It is the Platoon Leaders Course (PLC), which trains them before graduation. They participate in either two 6-week summers of training or one 10-week summer of training, known as Officer Training Camp (OTC). There is no weekly commitment, as opposed to ROTC. Also, "Unless one accepts tuition assistance under the program, there is no obligation to join the United States Marines after completion of the course," (http://usmilitary.about.com/cs/marinetmg/a/marineplc.html).

Both Peters and Brewer joined the marines for noble reasons. As a child, Peters dreamed of becoming a marine. He saw firsthand that members were "warriors *and* gentlemen." For Brewer, the decision to join wasn't made as early. He didn't decide to enlist in the Marines until college. Knowing that he would like to be a member of America's military, he learned about the Marines and discovered that "to be a Marine-it means something *more*." The Marine Corps is the smallest branch of the United States Military, and falls under the umbrella of the Navy and the Marines, numbering around 200,000.

Besides being members of the Marines, Brewer and Peters are both dedicated Hamilton students. Peters is a World Politics major, who also plays Squash. Brewer is a Geology major. Both men feel that their Hamilton education will be an asset to them in the future. According to Brewer, some downtime when deployed is used by officers to conduct mini-classes. Brewer looks forward to sharing his experience with marines. He feels that he was very fortunate to a have "a Hamilton level opportunity." Peters, who has a strong interest in Classics, feels like "studying the traditions of worlds past" will give him unique insights. Both men feel that the education afforded them by Hamilton is extraordinary, and they are determined to complete their degrees in appropriate time.

How does the Hamilton community accept them? After all, the United States is involved in an unpopular war. Both Brewer and Peters feel that the majority of the campus supports the military, though perhaps not the decisions made by the government in the name of the military. Brewer admits that "military strategy is not always consistent with political strategy." Peters has stronger words, urging politicians to "let the marines do what we want to do-we're good at it." Admittedly, some have trouble understanding exactly what these men do. One individual inquired of Peters, "Don't you know there's a war going on?" Both Peters and Brewer insist that school is their priority at the moment and that while they are committed to the Marines, their education is the most important thing.

What does daily life look like for Peters and Brewer? Not very different from that of any Hamilton student. They attend class, socialize with friends, eat meals. The main difference is that come springtime they will go into training for OTC. Then they put in roughly 3 hours a day of physical training. When asked if they could theoretically sit around eating Doritos and not exercising all day, both men laugh and Brewer admits "You could, but you'd pay for it."

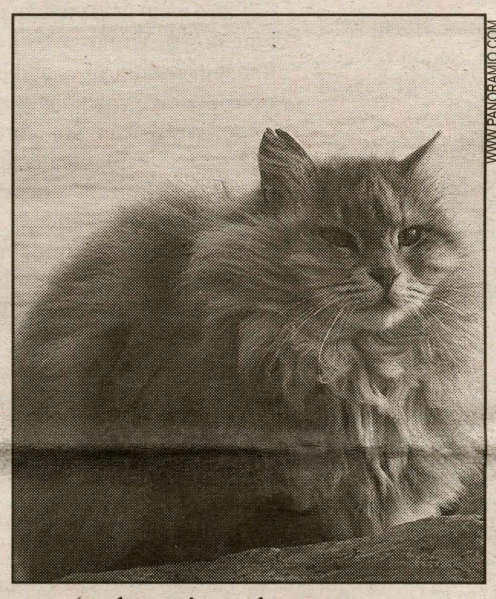
If you would like to meet these two men, come out to the Hamilton-Bowdoin football game on October 11. They will have a table with information about the program, but it won't be a recruiting table. It will be more of a table of fun, and they will be giving away some free things. Also feel free to challenge Brewer or Peters to some push-ups. On the other hand, it might not be too good for your self-esteem.

Spectator Between the Sheets

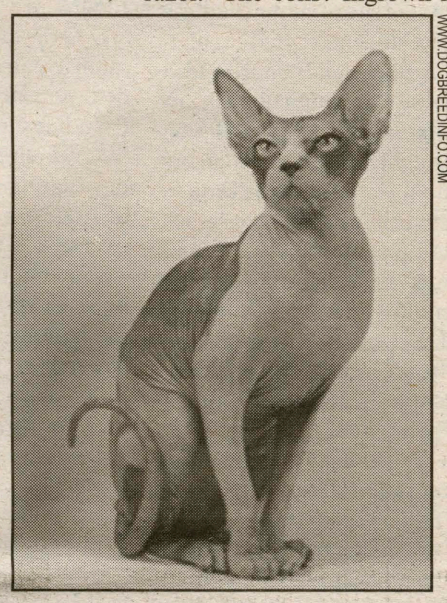
Bushwhacking Your Down Under

By Annabelle Moore '12
Features Columnist

You may not know it, but you probably devour pornography. Some of us consume it discreetly, like watching the newest Pussycat Dolls music video on repeat (if "Buttons" didn't give you a boner, you have ice water pumping through your veins) or having a favorite Bunny on The Girls Next Door. Some of us outright love that stuff, logging on to youporn.com, 89.com and redtube.com (yeah, you're welcome). And the more hardcore you get, the closer you get to the issue at hand: pubic hair. Au natural, manscaping, Brazilian; there seem to be many words in our vocabulary that describe the status of our pubes. Pornography is one of the few ways we can gauge what popular culture tells us what our genitals "should" look like and so many of us make the effort, either consistently or when we know we're getting laid, to follow these ideas of sexy pubic hair. Here are the pros and cons of different pubic hairstyles so you can choose what best fits your personality and lifestyle.



WWW.PANORAMIO.COM



WWW.DOGBREEDINFO.COM

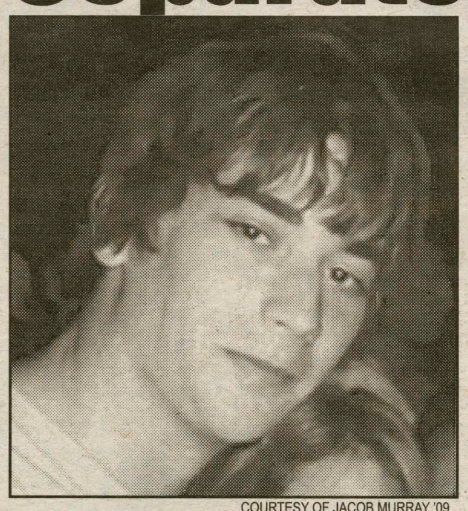
Au Natural: There are more reasons not to deal with hair-down-there than I can count. If you are lazy, a hippie, naturally hairless, don't have patience, can't tolerate pain, or don't like the look, then good for you! You are saving time, money and not giving in to the cultural beliefs of what is sexy. Although I must warn you, if you are very hairy but still morally opposed, don't expect oral sex. If your partner needs a weed-wacker to get to it, it probably aint happenin'.

Trim/Clean Bikini Line: You like to keep it neat but you have a low pain tolerance. If you're in a serious relationship then this is probably your pube-status. For guys this means trimming, for girls this usually means trimming and then shaving your bikini line.

Shaved: This is the step when you're either shaved bare or you've left a little design. Be it a landing strip, a lightening bolt or Hulk Hogan's profile, a little bit of hair can steer you away from the prepubescent-porn-star look, so if that's what you're going for then go crazy. It's free, and a great opportunity to show how creative you can get with a razor. The cons? Ingrown hair and itchiness when it grows in a couple days later.

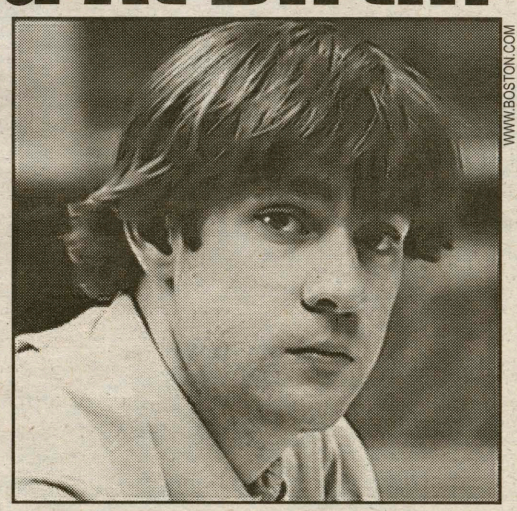
All Waxed: Brazilian wax, Sphinx wax, The Whole Nine Yards; every salon has a different name, but it boils down to the same thing—a nice Asian lady is pouring hot wax on your genitals and then ripping it off. It is extremely painful and often expensive, but it does look great and it lasts a long time. If you can brave the pain, the expense and the awkwardness of having a strange woman touching your taint, then you can achieve that porno-perfect pubification. If that's what you're into.

Separated At Birth?



COURTESY OF JACOB MURRAY '09

Jacob Murray '09



WWW.BOSTON.COM

John Krasinski (Jim Halpert from *The Office*)

ideas? send look-a-likes to ***LMOON***

A Closer Look: Community Farm Garden

by Katrina Rabeler '12
Features Writer

The Farm Garden

In June, the Hamilton News Feed reported on the Hamilton Community Garden. In September, the Spectator is reporting on the Hamilton Community Farm. From garden to farm, idea to reality, and seeds to dinner, this half acre plot of earthly greenness on Hamilton's property and all of the people involved in its production are bringing more than fresh vegetables to the table.

At the end of summer 2007 a group of students started circulating e-mails around about the idea of having something like a Hamilton garden. It was an evolution of thought seeded from many beginnings. At the same time as the environmentally conscious Hamilton students were putting together ideas for the organic community garden, Professor Frank Sciacca was formulating ideas to create a historical garden on campus to act as a lab for the college's College Seminar 235: Food for Thought: The Science, Culture, and Politics of Food.

The two groups realized that they had a lot to gain from approaching the administration together and they presented their combined proposal to the president last fall.

"From the get go, President Stewart was very supportive," Chris Sullivan '09 said. Her office funded the garden with presidential discretionary funds. With involvement from many different people, the Hamilton community was able to break ground last fall and plant a cover crop that started to prepare the soil for future cultivation.

Over the summer, the community farm was tended by Andrew Pape '10 and Sullivan while the Heritage Garden was tended by Melissa Balding '09.

The food grown in the community farm is intended for use by the Hamilton community and can be purchased at the community farm stand. Food is also sold to the co-op and Hamilton's food service provider, Bon Appétit. Though the food is grown for consumption, Sullivan believes the farm has a greater purpose:

"Really what's going on here is an effort to bring the Hamilton community together to work with the land Hamilton lives on, to cultivate, and learn about their food. "

Over the summer the Community Farm and Heritage Garden were attacked by everything from bugs to hail.

"Having a bad storm was devastating. The second week of August a bout of hail passed over us. The turf fields were white – you could pack snowballs out of it. Everything was damaged, but nothing was completely destroyed. It all bounced back," Sullivan said.

The farm is strictly organic, so they could not make use of any pesticides. The heritage garden was also limited to using historically accurate methods.

"When crops got damaged we did a lot of research to try and find out what we could do. I was under the constraints of only using methods that would have been employed in 1812. Which basically meant waiting it out," Balding said.

This summer was an unusually wet one, which brought pests and fungus to the garden.

"One of the least fun things is coming to grips with the realities of farming in this climate and watching certain crops fail, but it's really fine. We're constantly learning as we go," Chris said.

One interesting fungus that appeared on an ear of Indian corn was smut. This fungus frequently attacks corn in Mexico. It is considered a delicacy and can be purchased canned.

"I'm really fascinated. I'm glad it happened," Sciacca said.

Cucumber beetles were also a problem and forced the gardeners to set up traps. Though they didn't have any problem with rodents, there are plans to build a trench with chicken wire around the garden to keep smaller rodents out.

As the gardeners stressed, and the name implies, the farm is truly about bringing the Hamilton community together. Any help from the community is appreciated.

"We want everyone to try to come down. Work crews go out almost every morning and afternoon. You don't need any experience; we'll lead you through everything," explained Balding.

"We definitely encourage people to come out and get their hands a little dirty," said Pape.

And in the words of Sullivan, "I love the practice of cultivating. I love watching the progress from dropping seeds into the soil to washing it and eating it in beautiful bunches. I really love being out here with other people."

The Heritage Garden

Though the Heritage Garden has a different objective than the farm garden, it shares the goal of bringing the Hamilton community together. The Heritage Garden was created in honor of Hamilton's bicentennial and as an attempt to connect present day Hamilton with the old Hamilton.

"The 1812 Garden is dedicated to authentically reproducing a kitchen garden as it would have been in central NY in 1812. It was the brain child of the Food For Thought seminar," explains Balding.

"It struck me as an interesting way for our students to gain a deeper historical connection to their college. I wanted to recreate something of the ambiance of old Hamilton," Sciacca said.

Recreating the garden is not an easy task. The challenge for students in the Food for Thought seminar is to research and become experts on particular early 18th century crops. "The class researched everything for the garden," explains Balding. "The final for the course was designing the layout and planting the garden."

One of the most interesting crops in the garden is a rare type of 18th century potato, Cups. The seven Cups potatoes planted in the Heritage Garden were successful. The seeds are being saved for next year so that that number can expand.

The 'three sisters' part of the Heritage Garden project is to attempt to reconstruct a traditional Iroquois Indian planting method. The seeds used were originally obtained from the Iroquois nation.

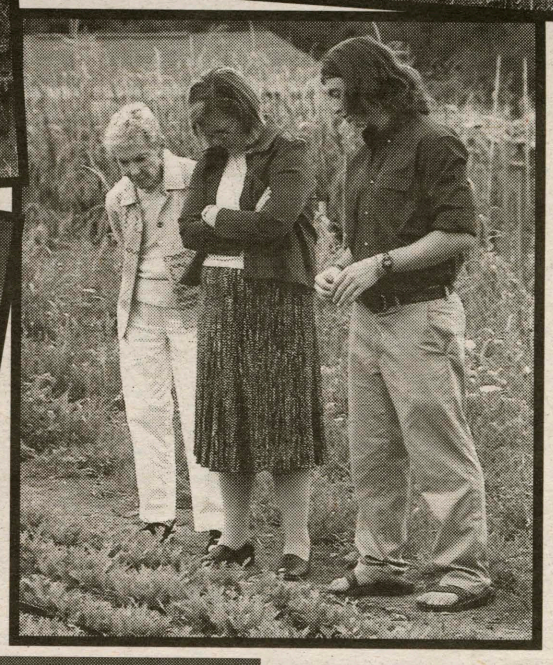
"Given Hamilton's ties to the Oneida [Iroquois tribe] we decided to dedicate a portion of the garden to them," Sciacca said. The three sisters: corn, beans, and squash are interplanted so as to maintain fertility and make for easy maintenance."

The garden functions like a lab for the class. Though there are no specified work hours, students enrolled in the course are expected to help out. The fall semester class is in charge of weeding, canning, preserving, preparing the garden for winter, and seed saving. The spring semester class will be in chare of designing next year's garden and planting the garden.

"The seminar not only critiques the industrial agricultural system in place in America today, but also explains how we got there, to the way things are now. The 1812 Garden shows how things were, to exemplify how far we've come, whether you see that as progress or not is up to you," Balding said.

"This summer was a lot of hard work, but a great learning experience," Balding said. "I've learned more than I could ever single-handedly reteach to anyone. Also, the satisfaction of feeding yourself from your own hard work was pretty epic."

PHOTOS BY MELISSA BALDING '09



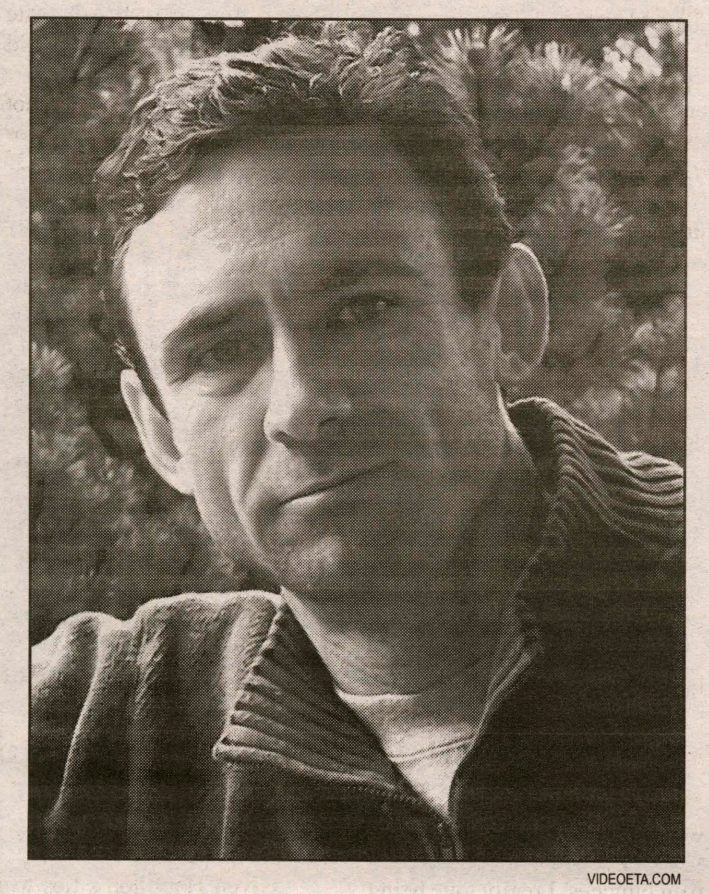
Chuck's *Choke* set to Capture Audiences

by Lyndra Vassar '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

This year audiences will enter the demented world of cult author, Chuck Palahniuk, with the release of his second film adaptation *Choke,* directed by Clark Gregg. Author of action-thriller novel *Fight Club*, Palahniuk is adept in luring niche audiences into the underbelly of everyday life where absurdity, thrill, and addiction become the staples of human conduct.

Choke chronicles the life of 40-something year old Vincent Mancini (Sam Rockwell), self-proclaimed sex addict and medical school dropout. The audience is blindly led into the parallel universe of Vincent in which he works as a "historical interpreter" at the Williamsburg Colonial theme park and performs pitiful reenactments as an Irish servant accompanied by a staff of medicated and uninspired 18th century milkmaids. His workdays are forever spent in 1734 as he gives insulting tours to disinterested students. Yet, the excitement Vincent lacks in his career he makes up in his nightly hobbies: picking up women at 12-step programs for recovering sex-addicts and happily copulating with fellow attendee, Nico (Paz de la Huerta), during their sultry bathroom breaks. These after-hour pursuits are spent with Vincent's best friend and chronic masturbator, Denny (Brad William Henke), as they wander in search of the insatiable nothingness they have grown to know as orgasm.

While Vincent's pathetically smarmy and self-indulgent ways are convincing, Palahniuk also presents the moral caveat in his character: his mother, Ida Mancini (Anjelica Huston),who is afflicted with dementia. Despite his turbulent childhood and relationship with Ida (the film provides several flashbacks into his early life), Vincent remains dedicated to her medical needs and keeps her in an up-scale nursing facility by any means necessary – even fraud.



VIDEOETA.COM

Chuck Palahniuk is most famous for *Fight Club*.

The movie's title, *Choke*, references a frequent maneuver by which Vince pretends to choke in various restaurants in order to con wealthy patrons into saving his life, as he evokes their sympathy; they ultimately give him money to pay Ida's hospital bills.

Vincent's madness escalates when his mother experiences a rare moment of lucidity and reveals a shocking truth about his father's previously hidden identity. With the help of Denny and his mother's seductive physician, Dr. Paige Marshall (Kelly Macdonald), Vincent embarks on a crazed journey to solve the mystery of his secret parenthood and a quest to find himself.

This dark and satirical twist on the traditional coming of age story aligns perfectly with Palahniuk's former tales of nihilism and the erratic journey to self-discovery. Besides *Fight Club,* Palahniuk boasts a host of fan-based novels such as *Invisible Monster*, an unpredictable story of a beautiful supermodel who experiences a life-altering car accident that leaves her with half a face and a newfound identity as a grotesque "monster"; *Lullaby* which follows the eerie investigation of a journalist seeking to unravel several child murder cases involving the recitation of children's lullabies as death chants; or his latest novel released in May 2008, *Snuff,* that narrates the audacious life of an aging porn star on a mission to have sex with 600 men in one day on camera.

In the mind of Palahniuk, a story's premise is never the same; the excitement he provokes in the face of abnormality, however, is what captivates his fans. No matter the plot, character, or setting, at the center of Palahniuk novels is an exaltation of the atypical. It is no secret that in the worlds of Palahniuk's stories, the only stability is their instability and the promise to keep readers disgusted yet intrigued, humored yet horrified every idiosyncratic step of the way.

Weekly Charts

by Rebecca Griffin '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

MUSIC
(From billboard.com)

Top Albums
1. Death Magnetic - Metallica
2. Don't Forget -Demi Lovato
3. Year of the Gentleman -Ne-Yo
4. Doll Domination -The Pussycat Dolls
5. Only By the Night -Kings of Leon

Top Songs
1. Whatever You Like -T. I.
2. So What - Pink
3. Love Lockdown - Kanye West
4. Disburbia - Rihanna.
5. Paper Planes-M.I.A.

MOVIES
(Yahoo! Movies)
1. Eagle Eye
2. Nights in Rodanthe
3. Lakeview Terrace
4. Fireproof
5. Burn After Reading
6. Igor
7. My Best Friend's Girl
8. Righteous Kill
9. Miracle at St. Anna
10. Dark Knight

BOOKS
(From The New York Times Best Seller *List)*

Paperback Fiction
1. THE SHACK, by William P. Young
2. THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO, by Junot Diaz
3. WATER FOR ELEPHANTS,by Sara Gruen
4. BAREFOOT,by Elin Hilderbrand
5. NIGHTS IN RODANTHE, by Nicolas Sparks

Paperback Non-Fiction
1. THREE CUPS OF TEA, by Greg Mortenson and david Oliver Relin
2. EAT, PRAY, LOVE, by Elizabeth Gilbert
3. SARAH, by Kaylene Johnson
4. CHANGE YOUR BRAIN, CHANGE YOUR LIFE, by Daniel Amen
5. THE AUDACITY OF HOPE, by Barack Obama

LETTUCE HEAD

Presented By Joe Kazacos '09 & Joshua Hicks '09

WALTZ DISNEY

What happened to the innocent days of our childhoods? If my guess is correct, many associate our days of growing up with fictional animated beings from the mind of Walt Disney. The time for building movie collections is upon us, and I frown at the thought of not owning *Robin Hood* or *Aladdin. Pocahantas* brought us to America with furry little animals, while *Mulan* took us all the way to China! The classic *Fantasia* seems to be a favorite in the hearts of many Americans, so where's your Disney flick?

Whether it's *The Lion King, The Fox and the Hound* or *The Little Mermaid* (yuck!) - you can never forget the timeless classics that made us all feel warm and cozy and forget about doing our chores for a couple of hours. P.S. 5 Lettuce Heads for *Mary Poppins*! I don't know about you, but sometimes I really do miss the good old days.

BLOOD DIAMOND

In addition to communicating a profound political message about the exploits of mining in Africa, *Blood Diamond*'s plot includes some great action sequences and decent love stories. Although a bit overdramatic at times, (hopefully an exaggeration imposed by Hollywood not a reflection of the real-life issues that underlie the movie), this film does help put a face next to not only diamonds, but gold, coltan (used in all of our cell phones), semi-precious stones, and the like. Overall, this movie tells a good story which just falls short of believable, earning it 3 lettuce heads.

Look for it on the October movie channel.

College Street Cafe to Record Local Musicians

by Alex Ossola '10
Arts & Entertainment Writer

On Friday, October 10 from 7-11 p.m., the College Street Café will hold an Open Mic Night for all local artists. The area's best talent will be pleasing all ears within listening distance. Unlike a typical Open Mic Night, the show will be recorded using professional equipment. After the show, the artists can purchase a copy of their own recording (anywhere from 1-4 songs), which can even be used as a demo. In the days following the performances, artists will be invited to individual recording sessions in order to perfect their recording from the live performance. Artists will be able to add voice-overs, harmonies, or whatever supplementary tracks they would like in order to create a professional-quality recording.

But Cathy Mosher, the owner of the College Street-Café, has even greater plans for these recordings. "Frthe Open Mic Nights we will create a compilation CD of all the performers,which will be on sale at the café as well as at other local hot spots," she said enthusiastically. The compilation will be released after Thanksgiving, and a CD release party will be planned for early December. There will be more Open Mic Nights throughout the semester including one October 24.

The College Street Café, a relatively young establishment at the bottom of the Hill, is dedicated to filling the niche of a performance space for citizens of Clinton and Hamilton College alike. Through these Open Mic Nights, Mosher hopes to connect the college and the town through music and performance.

Mosher is currently developing ideas to further bridge that gap between student body and Clinton community. Potential future events include: trivia nights, game/poker nights, and of course, more performances.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX OSSOLA '10

The College St. Cafe invites student performers to play and record their music.

The Career Center

Considering Grad School?

The Grad School Fair

Monday, October 6th
from 11:00am-1:00pm

Martin's Way
(Events Barn if it rains)

Stop by to chat with representatives
from a variety of graduate schools and testing resources.
Learn more about the programs they offer!

Union Graduate College
Duke University Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences
Suffolk University
Syracuse University School of Education
Newhouse School of Public Communications ~ Syracuse University
Northeastern University Graduate School of Business Administration
College of Human Services and Health Professions at Syracuse University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions
and many more!

Questions? Call us at x4346!

Comedy, Music in Wellin

by Rachel Pohl '11
Arts & Entertainment Writer
&
Michelle Reiser-Memmer
Performing Arts Administrator

The Hamilton College Department of Music presents "Comedy Tonight!", a performance of satire and spoofs on classical music. The event will be held on Saturday, October 4 at 8 p.m in Wellin Hall. The event, like most Fallcoming events, is free and open to the public.

Emceed by Carl Rabino, the performance opens with G. Roberts Kolb singing Stephen Sondheim's "Comedy Tonight!" The program features several compositions by P.D.Q. Bach, the satirical alter ego of Peter Schickele, including "Four Folk Song Upsettings" performed by Hamilton's own pianist Sar-Shalom Strong and the choral cantata "Knock Knock" performed by Hamilton's College Hill Singers and Sar-Shalom Strong.

Also scheduled on the program is the following: a minimalist piano composition by M.T. Glass performed by Rob Hopkins and a parody of Schubert's "Heidenröslein" by G. Roberts Kolb and several Wagnerian roles by Heather Montana '07.

Comedy Tonight is intended as and sure to be a night of fun, full of satire and spoofs on classic music, something rarely done. Everyone in the music department and beyond has been anticipating the event for quite some time. Professor Rob Hopkins commented, "I've wanted to do a musical comedy show for many years at Hamilton, and the participants all look forward to sharing the fun with everyone this Saturday."

Other Arts events set for Fallcoming week-end include:a film-screening of "King Corn," an exploratory film about friendship, farming, and the troublesome food system, in Science Center Rm. G041 at 7:10 p.m. on Friday; World-Class Jazz, led by Houston Person, in the Events Barn at 9 p.m. on Friday; an Emerson Gallery Talk with Stephen J. Goldberg, on Contemporary Chinese Art The Emerson Gallery at 3 p.m. on Sunday.

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DISNEY'S BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA — STADIUM SEATING — DREW BARRYMORE — DTS — PG
●12:00●2:10-4:25-6:40▲8:55

NICK & NORAH'S INFINITE PLAYLIST — MICHAEL CERA — STADIUM SEATING — DTS — PG-13
●1:25●3:30-5:35-7:40▲9:45

HOW TO LOSE FRIENDS & ALIENATE PEOPLE — KIRSTEN DUNST — R
●12:50●3:05-5:25-7:50▲10:00

AN AMERICAN CAROL — KELSEY GRAMMER — DENNIS HOPPER — PG-13
●1:10●3:10-5:20-7:20▲9:20

EAGLE EYE — SHIA LaBEOUF — #1 MOVIE! — DTS — PG-13
●1:50-4:20-7:00▲9:35

NIGHTS IN RODANTHE — RICHARD GERE — DIANE LANE — DTS — PG-13
●2:20-4:35-6:50▲9:05

IGOR ●12:30●2:30-4:30-6:30 PG

LAKEVIEW TERRACE — SAMUEL L. JACKSON — PG-13
●2:00-4:45-7:10▲9:30

BURN AFTER READING 8:20 BRAD PITT R

MY BEST FRIEND'S GIRL — KATE HUDSON — DANE COOK — R
●12:45●3:00-5:15-7:30▲9:40

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HAMILTON HOROSCOPES

by Steve Allinger '09
Staff Seer

Aries: When you open a bathroom door, do you ever get the sudden feeling that someone is crouched in there, waiting to hit you in the face with a brick? I do, and I'm an Aries.

Taurus: Stop crouching in bathrooms waiting to hit people with bricks.

Gemini: Some of the most important lessons are not taught in any classroom, but the ones about your major are, so if you want to graduate you should probably start going.

Cancer: Coming out of your shell has always been difficult for you, so is the fact that you were hatched from an egg.

Leo: If there's someone you want to ask out but you have been waiting for the right moment, don't delay. You're not going to suddenly get better looking or smarter and at least now that rash is relatively contained.

Virgo: Your dorm is haunted...like, infested with ghosts.

Libra: You are headstrong. Do not take orders from head-weak people like professors or police officers.

Scorpio: Your symbol is the scorpion, and like a scorpion, people are terrified when they find you in their bed in the morning.

Sagittarius: Make new friends, but keep the old, one is silver and the other knows a whoooooole lot of fu*ked up sh*t you've done.

Capricorn: You will eventually die...of happiness! And old age or disease.

Aquarius: Beware! This week one of your closest friends will stab you in the back, wile one of your worstest enemies stabs you in the front.

Pisces: Some people were born to lead, others to follow; you probably shouldn't have been born.

YOU NEED SOME "FOREIGN EXPOSURE!"

Planning to study abroad? Talk to students who have been there!

FOREIGN EXPOSURE will be hosting drop-in coffee hours Sundays in KJ COMMONS 2nd FLOOR from 8-9 pm

OCTOBER 5: ENGLAND!
OCTOBER 12: AUSTRIA AND CZECH REPUBLIC!

STOP BY! ASK QUESTIONS! TAKE A STUDY BREAK! GET A COUPON FOR OPUS GOODIES!

Already been or from there? Stop by, too, and reminisce!

HEAG Green Week Events Sweep Across Hill

from ***Green Week****, page 1*

by Bon Appetit, the catering company for student dining halls. The challenge proposed eating food—with the origin labeled—that was grown from within a 150-mile radius of the campus. The challenge also proposed having lunch without using cafeteria trays.

According to Ferrara, eating locally "fits into our overall message, which is about reducing our carbon footprint." Also, Gleason explained that not using the cafeteria trays would help the environment in two ways: "students would take and waste less food, and the energy to wash the dishes would lessen." Ferrara also added as a side note that although eating organic versus inorganic food was not an explicit goal of this challenge, a higher percentage of local food is in fact organic when compared to food from foreign areas such as China. The overall goal of the challenge was to increase awareness of the origins of the food we eat, and to realize that trays are not always necessary for eating.

The third event prepared for Wednesday was the Local Farmers' and Artisans' Market. There were fifteen vendors on Martin's Way, including Tom's Natural Foods, the Cider Mill, and the Community Farm Garden. They sold a vast diversity of goods, and a great number of students were drawn out to the market not just because they wanted to buy things, but also because they wanted to help the local economy.

For instance, Gleason describes how "a lot of people want to be connected to the local farmers to get in touch with the community off the Hill." And the market is certainly not new for, as Ferrara says, "Ashley Langer, a senior, has organized it previously, and basically it has happened every green week since we have been here, so it is traditional." When asked what goal HEAG hoped to accomplish through this event, Ferrara replied, "Supporting the local economy is important; it reminds us we don't have to go to big conglomerate department stores where things come from thousands of miles away and are produced in conditions that are unknown."

Thursday's event for Green Week was the campus clean-up. Three groups went over the bridge and behind the annex to pick up bottles, cans, paper, and anything else they could find. When asked why this event was chosen for Green Week, Gleason responded, "It is traditional, and it gets students involved in the immediate environment that most impacts them." When asked why the Glen was chosen in particular as the location for the clean-up, Ferrara simply hinted, "There are certain places we would like to particularly clean up after certain weekends." To summarize the overall goal of the event, Gleason explained, "HEAG wanted to foster a sense of connection between the students and environment, especially a sense of responsibility with our campus, since environmentally it is on a miniature scale, and we are trying to do things that are done in the entire world in a small model."

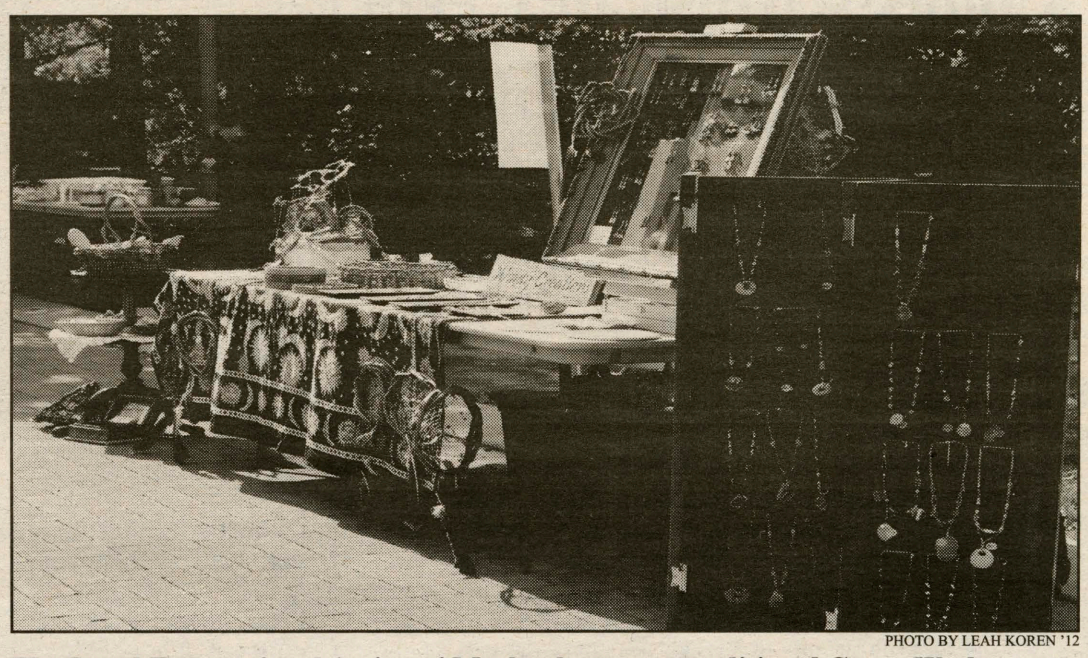


PHOTO BY LEAH KOREN '12

The Local Farmers' and Artisans' Market became a traditional Green Week event.

The final event for Green Week is scheduled for today, Friday, and it is the presentation of a documentary film titled "King Corn." The film is about two college friends, Ian and Curtis, who temporarily move to Greene, Iowa in order to farm an acre of corn. While they grow the corn, they tour critical locations in order to gain a sense of the crucial role corn plays in our society through various realms, such as economics, environmental studies, and even entertainment.

Ferrara justified the selection of this final event for Green Week by stating, "We always like to have a film during Green Week that actually teaches you something and keeps you entertained."

Gleason added, "The film itself can be inspirational, and a lot of students would rather see a movie than a lecture, even though both can be equally educational." The ultimate goal for this final event is to raise awareness of the diverse roles corn plays in our lives, from being a key ingredient in many food products in the form of corn syrup to being a source of biodiesel fuel.

As for potential new events for future Green Weeks, Ferrara and Gleason suggested a revamped version of a previous and controversial event called "Trash Mountain." In the past, this event consisted of piling a day's worth of garbage onto the middle of Martin's Way in order to show how much trash is produced every day; in the future, HEAG may decide to substitute actual trash with something else easier to clean up.

When asked to comment on the outlook of future Green Weeks, both co-presidents agreed they want momentum that continues the Green Week spirit of taking responsibility for protecting the environment beyond just one week.

Local Food Rules

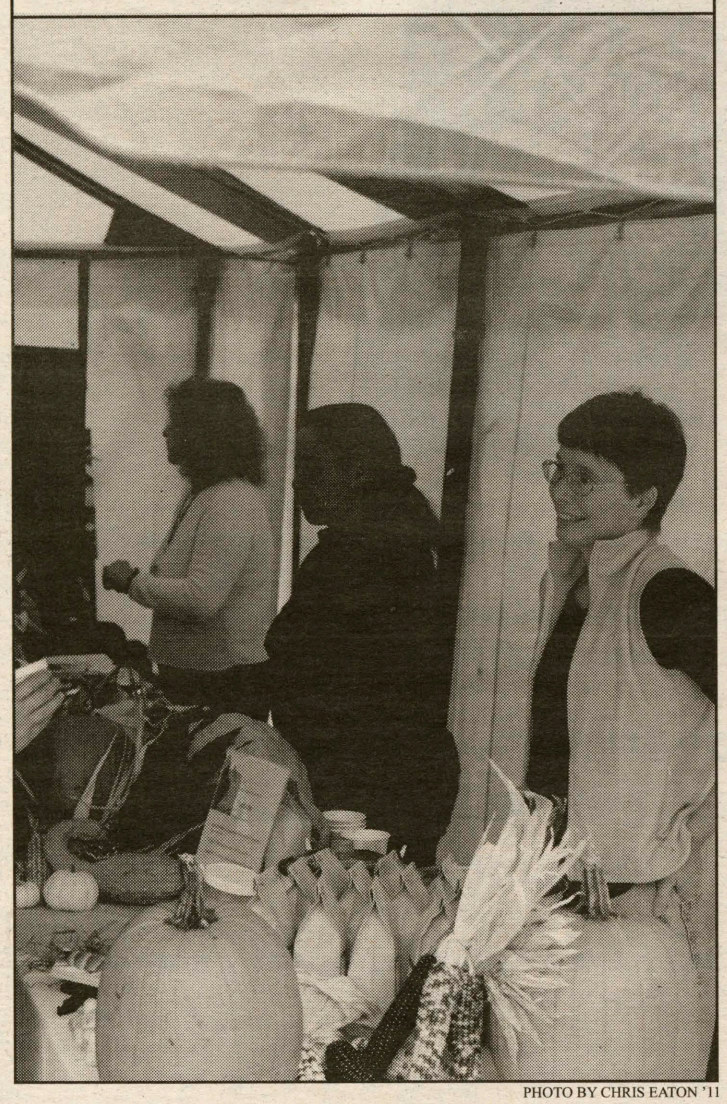


PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

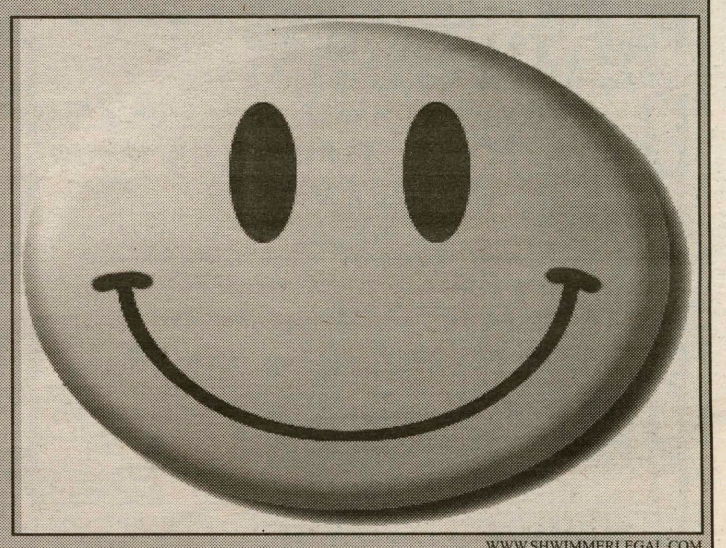
Volunteers from the 1812 Garden present their produce.

Positive Thinking Enhances Mental and Physical Ability

by Jessica Carroll '12
Science & Technology Editor

Positive psychology is a recently-founded branch of psychology that studies the strengths that enable both individuals and communities to thrive. Positive psychologists seek not to cure mental illness, but instead to improve the quality of normal life and to grow talent. Dr. Martin Seligman is considered to be "the father of positive psychology."

One practices positive psychology by thinking positive thoughts instead of negative ones. Like other bad habits, however, negative thinking can be very difficult to change. You can only change your thought processes with practice. The more you flood your mind with positive thought alternatives by reading and practicing them, the more your thoughts and feelings will change for the better. On the other hand, the human brain has already made some connections between muscle movement and emotion. For example, a smile can be a powerful weapon. In his book *Know It All*, A. J. Jacobs talks about how he read in the Encyclopedia Britannica that when you smile your brain is tricked into believing you are happy. Instead of the smile being the result of happiness, it becomes the cause.



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Smiling is psychologically beneficial to overall health.

Amazingly, physical movement or manifestation of the emotion is not necessary. Many people have witnessed the power of positive thinking when they practice and repeat affirmations for spiritual growth. An example of one of these positive sayings is "I will face each new day with peace and love in my heart." However, it may take months of daily effort before one might notice a change in their feelings.

Dr. Martin Seligman is the Chairman of the University of Pennsylvania Positive Psychology Center and founder of Positive Psychology. This new branch focuses on the practical study of such things as positive emotions, mental strength, character, and health. His research has demonstrated that it is possible to be happier overall through the power of positive thought. With consistent positive psychology

see ***Having Negative****, page 18*

Making it Into Medical School, Part One: Classes

by Matthew Crowson '09
Science & Technology Senior Writer

The Pre-Medical path is long and can oftentimes seem like an overwhelming, darkened labyrinth of hoops to jump through and vague benchmarks to surpass. The goal of this article series is to serve as a torch for those of you who choose to enter this maze by offering practical tips and advice from the perspective of students who have navigated past many of the mile-markers that line the Pre-Medical journey.

So what kinds of courses does one need to take to be considered "Pre-Med"? Are there certain courses at Hamilton that I can take that will satisfy the requirements for admission? Can I dissect humans at Hamilton? These are just a few of the questions I had as a newcomer to Hamilton, and in this week's article we will address the topic of the academic Pre-Med regimen at Hamilton.

First off, let's address one of the burning questions I had as a freshman – no, you cannot dissect humans, or any primate for that matter, while at Hamilton College. You can, however, explore the anatomy of a fairly wide range of animal species in Bio 222 – Vertebrate Organization. For all you cat lovers out there, you may be excited to hear that the main specimens of exploration for the majority of lab time throughout the semester are felines – and big ones at that. Rumor has it that the cats that end up on the dissecting tray are from the "pound," and when I first saw my cat, I thought that he must have been the undisputed champion of a some sort of underground cat fight club. "Brute," aptly named, was massive by all means, and the amount of muscle on his upper body and hindquarters made for some not-so-far-fetched speculation about his potential role as the supreme alpha-male of the strays in his home in the street alley. Apart from my frequent musings and theories on street cat social structure, I thoroughly enjoyed the course and found that it ultimately launched my interest in anatomy and, subsequently, in medicine.

If you don't feel like picking apart a cat for a semester, Bio 222 is not the only course with which you can get your medical fix. Nick Berry '09, a senior Pre-Med, found that Bio 331 – Vertebrate Physiology – furthered his interests in medicine the most out of the courses he has taken thus far. "It had a lot of 'medically related content,' such as how all the organ systems in the body interact with each other, the underlying causes behind various medical conditions, and how various medications/therapies work. Plus, [Professor] Gapp is a great teacher and tries to put MCAT/medical school type questions on his exams." Berry also had some other recommendations: "Of course, pretty much all the biology courses I took increased my interest in being a doctor one way or another because they all gave me a good summary of the fundamental concepts underlying medicine. Biochemistry and Cell Neurobiology are two good ones."

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While required classes may seem daunting, medical school can be its own reward.

Travis Blood '09, another senior Pre-Med, identified a few other courses that ramped up his personal interest in medicine. "I have found that neuroscience courses, in particular Brain and Behavior, have increased my interest in medicine. Other classes include microbiology as well as Neuroplasticity that have served to benefit my pre-medical experience. I have found all of these courses to be stimulating and thought-provoking, with a particular connection with medicine and the many dimensions that it encompasses." While we have mentioned only a handful of courses here, the bottom line is that you have many options for exploring your interest in medicine at Hamilton.

But what do the medical schools themselves ask of us Pre-Med folk? I need to preface the answer to this question by pleading that you keep in mind that every school has their own policies and deviations from the norm. The consensus is that most schools require: two semesters of general chemistry; two semesters of organic chemistry; two semesters of biology; two semesters of physics; and two semesters of English/composition. Some medical schools also like to see a semester or two of math and/or biochemistry. All of these courses can be taken at Hamilton, and you should have no problem completing these requirements here.

If you don't feel like just getting by with the minimums, good

*see **Med Schools**, page 18*

Did You Know That?

Wacky Facts: It's Great to be Alive!

by Jessica Carroll '12
Science & Technology Editor

- ***Butterflies taste food by standing on top of it. Their taste receptors are in their feet, unlike humans who have most of their taste receptors on their tongue.***
- ***The blue-ringed octopus is the most venomous octopus, with venom that can kill an adult human in minutes.***
- ***Most of the dust in your home is actually dead skin.***
- ***Humans get a little taller in space because there is no gravity pushing down on them.***
- ***Rabbits and parrots can see behind themselves without moving their heads.***
- ***A hippopotamus may seem huge, but it can still run faster than a human.***
- ***The trickiest tongue twister in the English language is apparently "Sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick". Give it a try and see for yourself. Happy speaking!***
- ***Humans have 46 chromosomes, peas have 14 and crayfish have 200.***
- ***There are 60,000 miles of blood vessels in the human body.***
- ***The low frequency call of the humpback whale is the loudest noise made by a living creature.***
- ***Each person sheds 40 pounds of skin in his or her lifetime.***
- ***Wounds infested with maggots heal quickly and without the spread of gangrene or other infections.***
- ***More germs are transferred by shaking hands than by kissing.***
- ***The fastest speed that a falling raindrop can hit you at is 18 miles per hour.***
- ***A thimbleful of a neutron star would weigh over 100 million tons.***
- ***The risk of being struck by a falling meteorite for a human is one occurrence every 9,300 years.***
- ***The African elephant gestates for 22 months.***
- ***The mortality rate if bitten by a Black Mamba snake is over 95 percent.***
- ***If every star in the Milky Way were a grain of salt, they would fill an Olympic sized swimming pool.***
- ***Our oldest radio broadcasts of the 1930s have already traveled past 100,000 stars.***

China Makes Its First Spacewalk

*from **First**. page 18*

Chinese families have watched the broadcast of the Shenzhou 7 spaceship and the live broadcast achieved a high watching rate of 7.1 percent. The live broadcast illustrates not only advancement in Chinese technology, but also the advancement in confidence and openness, all of which reveals a new China after the success of the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

One of the biggest challenges astronauts face is the lack of gravity in space. As a result, life in the spaceship is quite different from our daily lives here on earth. There are many interesting facts about the lives of astronauts. The specially-designed suits for astronauts are always tight, because big and loose clothes will make the astronauts float. All the objects inside the spacecraft have to be fixed and fastened, so that they won't drift freely and hit buttons accidentally. The food for astronauts is made into small bite-size pieces and can be eaten one by one; such is the case because the fragments of food will fly upward and get into an astronaut's eyes, nose, and even into the air tube, which might lead to suffocation. When the astronauts drink water, they have to use a small tube to send the water into their mouth, preventing the water drops from going into the air tube. When they sleep or rest, they have to tie themselves in with belts or sleeping bags so that they won't bounce around when they sleep. When they have to walk in a weightless environment, they have to wear shoes with hooks to grab the net-shape floor or ceiling.

In the near future, China will be sending more spaceships in space. China plans to send three spaceships in 2010. Shenzhou 8 will be an unmanned air vehicle to prepare for the abutment of the Chinese space station. Shenzhou 9 will be an unmanned air vehicle which will automatically join with Shenzhou 8 to build a small space experimental lab in space. Shenzhou 10 is projected to carry three crew members to join Shenzhou 8 and Shenzhou 9, the combination of which will become China's first ever space station.

THE WHOLE HISTORY OF PHYSICS PROVES THAT A NEW DISCOVERY IS QUITE LIKELY LURKING AT THE NEXT DECIMAL PLACE.

~F.K. RICHTMEYER

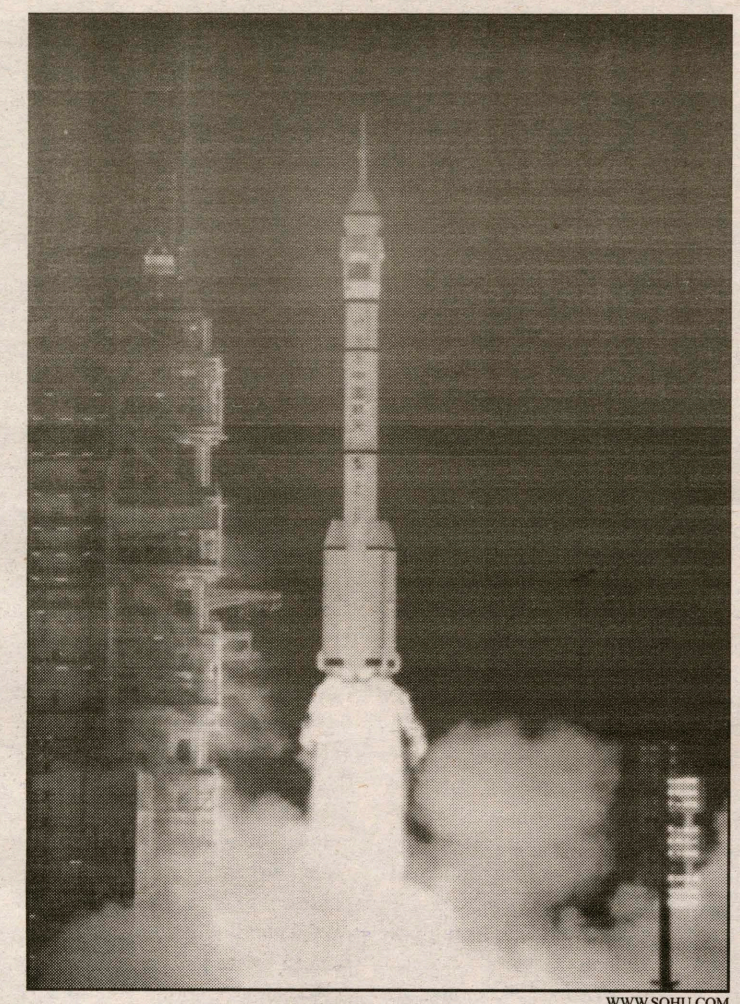
First Chinese Spacewalk Signals Space Milestone

by Yinghan Ding '12
Science & Technology Writer

On September 25, 2008 at 9:10 p.m., the People's Republic of China successfully launched its Shenzhou 7 spaceship on a Long March 2F (CZ-2F) rocket from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center. The craft landed safely in Siziwang Banner, in central Inner Mongolia, on September 28, 2008, after orbiting the earth for about 68 hours.

Shenzhou 7 is the third successful Chinese manned spaceflight to date. In 2003, China launched its first manned spaceship – Shenzhou 5, and the commanding astronaut, Yang Liwei, became the first Chinese astronaut – or "taikonaut" – in outer space. The launch of Shenzhou 5 made China the third country in the world to independently launch a person into space, only after the then Soviet Union and the United States.

Shenzhou 5 made 14 orbits and landed a mere 21 hours after launch. Two years later, in 2005, China launched its second manned spaceship, Shenzhou 6, with crew members Fei Junlong and Nie Haisheng. It made a respectable 77 orbits and landed 127.5 hours after launch, demonstrating the strong progression in technology from Shenzhou 5. Finally, this year, China launched its third manned spaceship – Shenzhou 7 – sending three more Chinese astronauts: Liu Boming, Zhai Zhigang and Jing Haipeng to space. It made 45 orbits and landed 68.5 hours after launch.



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Clockwise from left: Shenzhou 7 takes off on September 25; taikonaut Zhai Zhigang waves the Chinese flag in space; Shenzhou 5 hurtles towards the stratosphere.

The success of Shenzhou 7 marks a milestone in the history of the Chinese space program, and truly makes the year 2008 a golden year for China in terms of their involvement in global competition, which began with their opportunity to host the Olympics. One of the astronauts, Zhai Zhigang, stepped outside the spacecraft in his specially-designed suit and walked in space for 20 minutes. Zhai became the first taikonaut to ever walk in space. After he got out of the spaceship, a small satellite with a video camera went with him, which made a live telecast of Zhai's entire space walk.

When asked for comment in an international interview, Zhigang replied, "The mission of Shenzhou 7 is a historical and honorable mission for me. As an astronaut, it is my greatest honor to represent my home country China to go into the space."

"Thanks for the support from all Chinese people," another Shenzhou 7 astronaut, Liu Boming, said as he demonstrated his pride in successfully completing the mission. "Chinese astronauts are the best."

According to AGB Nelson's statistics, over 50 percent of

*see **China**, page 17*

Med Schools Look For Diverse Courses

*from **Making it**, page 17*

for you.

You can surpass the required courses by further exploration of a given science-related subject, or you can supplement your Pre-Med education with courses from completely unrelated fields, like the arts or the humanities. There is also an added bonus to diversifying your academic portfolio. At some point in your pre-med career you'll hear that medical schools like it when applicants branch out and explore courses that don't necessarily have anything to do with medicine. Berry adds, "Of course, schools also like to see that you pursued a diverse course selection, not just science and math. To that end, I have taken Government, Philosophy, Comparative Literature, Computer Science, and Language courses."

While it is important to make sure you check off the minimum course requirements asked for by the medical admissions committees, you should remember to pursue courses and interests that appeal to you, regardless of the relevance, or lack thereof, to your future career in medicine. Berry believes that there is something lost if you try to appease the medical school admissions committees by adhering tightly to the Pre-Med course of study. "My only advice is to make sure that you take a diverse selection of courses from many different fields because otherwise you'll probably lose something from the Hamilton experience." Berry is on to something here. You don't want to find yourself graduating with regrets about courses or subject areas you wish you looked into. At Hamilton, you are more or less free to take courses outside of your discipline. Where else can you take Biology, Women's Studies, Economics, and Dance all in one semester? Cover the minimum requirements, but get out there and take advantage of the wide range of academic offerings that Hamilton has to offer.

In the next article, we will investigate the interview process and hear from some students who have had facetime with the admissions committees – and survived to tell the tale. If any of you Pre-Meds out there have any experiences you'd like to share or any Pre-Med issues that you'd like to see covered, feel free to fire off an e-mail to mcrowson@hamilton.edu, and we will get your advice out there for the benefit of those who are just starting their Pre-Med adventure.

Having Negative Thoughts Leads To Negative Results

*from **Positive**, page 16*

one can feel more satisfied, be more engaged with life, find more meaning in everyday activities, have higher hopes, and probably even laugh and smile more, regardless of one's circumstances.

John Shook of the Center for Inquiry, a "global federation committed to science, reason, free inquiry, secularism and planetary ethics," says "As long as positive psychology remains rooted in the real world, it could teach us a lot about what makes people happy." Interestingly enough, when a wide selection of people were interviewed, it was found that what makes religious people and atheists happy is the same. This is a controversial idea, since it implies that religion does not directly make you happy. Instead, it is the other benefits associated with living in a religious community.

It stands to reason that since positive psychology can have such a profoundly helpful effect, that negative stimuli and thoughts would have a detrimental effect. Many have seen the "old people" cards or heard the jokes about declining memory or other common ailments of old age. Now a study suggests that such negative portrayals of aging may actually help bring about the memory problems often talked about. In essence, just joking about your memory loss can actually cause you to have memory loss. Such is the adaptability and responsiveness of the human brain.

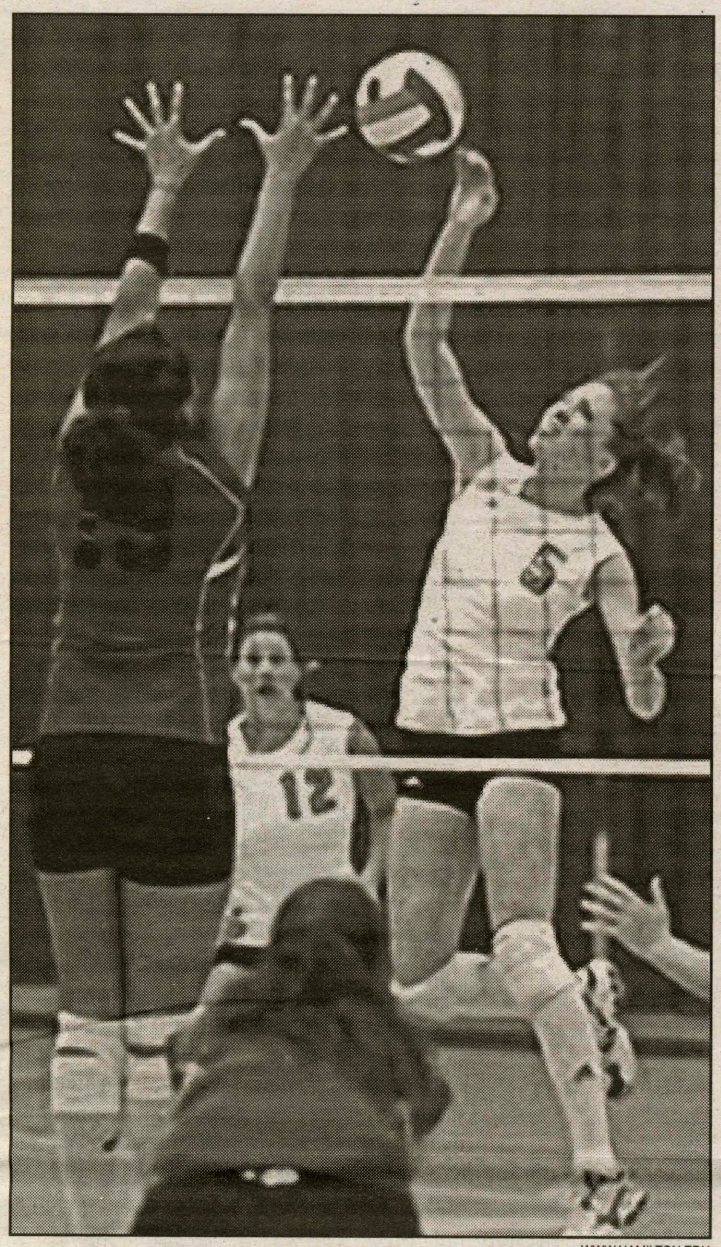
There was a different study at Harvard University, run by Bacca Levy, Ph.D, which involved volunteers over age sixty. These people were not prepared for the study ahead of time other than being exposed to the society we all live in. They were asked to press either the up or down arrow on a keyboard after seeing a word flash on a screen. These words were flashed so quickly (a tenth to a twentieth of a second) that it would have been impossible for the participants of the study to actually read the word. However, this did not seem to matter to the brain.

One group was shown words that have negative connotations about aging and memory, such as senile and incompetent, while a different selection of people were primed with positive words, such as alert or wise. Even though the participants could not read the words, their brain subconsciously did, and reacted accordingly. Those who were shown negative words reacted more slowly and performed worse on memory tests than those participants who were shown positive words.

This study shows that the positive reinforcement does not necessarily have to come from inside the brain, but can be absorbed, in a sense, from one's surroundings or affected by attitude. For example, a researcher studied approximately 500 college freshmen, looking at their SAT scores, high school grades, current GPAs and attitude. He found that the presence of a positive attitude or perseverance or optimism was a better determining factor as to how well a student would perform in college than their previous grades or scores.

A person who is predisposed to positive thinking will become less discouraged by failure, and thus keep working with a better attitude, while a person with a negative makeup will enact a self-fulfilling prophecy; "I will do badly" translates into actual failure. Positive psychology is not a fix for anything serious, but an effort to improve the lives of ordinary people being influenced by both society and themselves.

Volleyball Digs up Success Against Streaky SUNY IT



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Kristen Selden '09 moves up to third place in all-time blocks.

by Brandon Leibsohn '10
Sports Editor

Coming off of two nine-win seasons in a row, the volleyball team entered the year with high hopes of making a name for itself in the NESCAC. So far so good as the Continentals have gotten off to a start that should propel them towards their first double-digit win season since 1999. They won five of their last 13 contests and with 18 games remaining the team looks to capitalize on its ability to perform well in tough road environments.

Head Coach Erin Reding took over for Alexis Manhertz during the summer and has not missed a beat in her early career here at Hamilton. Coming from conference rival Connecticut College helped in her transition from assistant to head coach, due to her familiarity with many of the teams the Continentals face.

The team began the season on the road with two tournaments, which gave them the opportunity to gain experience and cohesion as a unit. At the Ithaca College Bomber Invitational, the Continentals took home an eleventh place finish when they defeated Baptist Bible College in a close four set match (25-19, 23-25, 25-22, 25-12). Hamilton's single-season record holder in assists and aces, Kelsey Lawler '11, played tremendously in the victory. She assisted 34 balls and had three aces to go along with her five kills. Kristen Selden '09 moved into third place on Hamilton's all-time total blocks list with her three blocked shots, and Alex Singh '11 contributed with seven kills. This tournament gave the team hope for future success because they were close in three out of the four matches they played in.

Following this great finish, the squad headed to Schenectady, New York, for the Union College Invitational. The Continentals dominated during the tournament and captured three out of four matches. Jo Fier '11 stepped up her play on the court and was recognized for her great efforts with a selection to the all-tournament team. When the team needed a key play, she came through with kill after kill. In the first match, the team faced Sage College in a five set thriller that saw momentum switch back and forth. Two wins in the first two games gave Hamilton the advantage, but they had to win a three point fifth set to secure the victory. Amber O' Connor '09 continued to move up in the school's all-time digs leaderboard with 32 digs in the match.

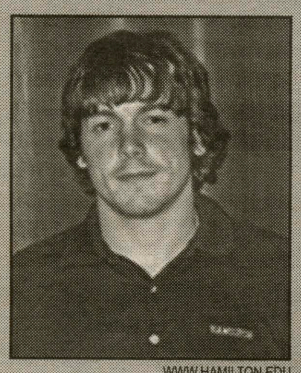
The Continentals could not spend too much time celebrating as they had another match that night against Elmira College. This match turned out to be the easiest on the Continentals schedule, and they came away with a dominating three game sweep (25-12, 25-17, 25-13). Lawler's service was unstoppable as she collected six aces, and Jori Belkin '11 finished with a team-high four blocks to give the team a formidable offense-defense combination. In the third victory of the tournament against Hartwick College, Rachel Irizarry '12 put forth a balanced performance with 10 kills on offense and 13 digs on defense to lead the way.

The Continentals took on Utica College a few days later with confidence. They prevailed in a three game sweep that saw a milestone achievement attained by the Lady Continentals. Seldon collected her career kill number 700 and put herself in position to crack the top-five in school history in her second category (kills and blocks). O'Connor has established herself as the defensive leader of the team and has now become Hamilton's all-time digs leader.

A come from behind victory against SUNY IT on Wednesday night for their first home win of the year. Fier played exceptional hitting 13 kill shots and digging up 17 balls. Service play was the difference in the game as Hamilton connected on 20 serves with Lawler leading the way. They won in four sets and gave SUNY IT its first loss of in seven games.

This weekend, the team travels to Williams College for four matches. This will be the last non-league weekend before the heart of conference play begins on October 11. It appears that the team's leaders have stepped up and made a deep commitment to winning and this attitude should propel the team to future success.

Who's Hot in Hamilton Athletics



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This week, Jeff Corbett '09 finished his best collegiate round of golf at the NESCAC Qualifier at Middlebury with a score of 142. He was named to the NESCAC all-conference team for the third consecutive year.

Kate Fowler '10 secured two shut-outs in a row to continue the Lady Continentals' undefeated season. She was named the Liberty League women's soccer co-Defensive Performer of the Week and has been named the Eastern College Athletic Conference Division III Upstate region Defensive Player of the Week.

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Jordan Eck '12 threw two touchdown passes and showed his prowess as an offensive leader in Hamilton's decisive win over Wesleyan. He was efficient in the pocket, completing 18-of-30 passes with no turnovers.

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SPECTATOR SPORTS

October 3, 2008

Hamilton Football Team Beats Wesleyan 17-7

by Brandon Leibsohn '10
Sports Editor

Hamilton football has recaptured the glory of yesteryear and is ready to turn the tide after it cruised to a 17-7 victory over Wesleyan University last weekend. The offensive and defensive sides of the ball seemed to click at just the right time, putting forth a terrifically mastered balanced attack. The Continentals secured their first win over Wesleyan in the past four years, avenging their one-point loss from last year, making their triumph that much sweeter.

Right from the start, the team could tell that it was primed for success as it intercepted the fifth pass attempt of the game and capitalized eight plays later with a four yard touchdown pass to Ben Tomaszewski '10. Jordan Eck '12 established his role on the team with his impressive ball control from the quarterback position. He did not turn the ball over and continued to move the chains with his efficient 18-of-30 completions from the pocket.

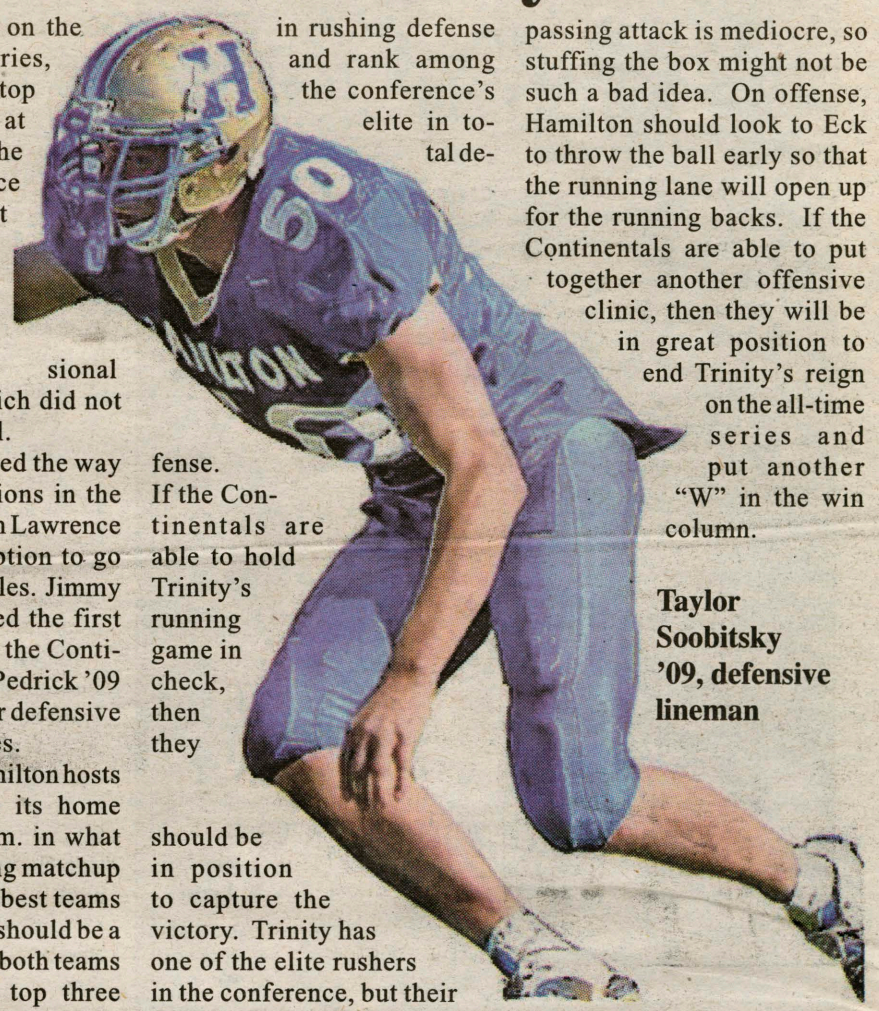
Max Foster '10 led the receiving corps with his second consecutive 100 yard game, including the final 55 yard touchdown dagger in the fourth quarter. Because Eck was able to continually move the ball with his arm, the ground attack was open for most of the game. Dylan Isenberg '12 and Mark Snickenberger '11 combined for 149 rushing yards, allowing the team to hold possession of the ball for over 35 minutes of the game.

Hamilton converted on almost half of its third downs and completed the game with 15 total first downs. By and large, the offense played tremendously, and with this kind of performance in the future, they will definitely put themselves in position to make a mark in the NESCAC.

The defense was just as exciting as the offense, forcing Wesleyan into four turnovers. The Continentals held the Cardinals to 38 yards on the ground on 20 carries, including a key stop on fourth and two at the beginning of the third quarter. Once Wesleyan saw that they could not run the ball, they were forced into consistently relying on their one-dimensional passing attack, which did not suit them very well.

Ted Finan '12 led the way with two interceptions in the second half and John Lawrence '10 had an interception to go along with four tackles. Jimmy Gibson '09 recorded the first sack of the year for the Continentals and Trevor Pedrick '09 continued his stellar defensive play with 10 tackles.

Tomorrow, Hamilton hosts Trinity College in its home opener at 12:30 p.m. in what looks to be a thrilling matchup between two of the best teams in the NESCAC. It should be a defensive battle, as both teams are ranked in the top three in rushing defense and rank among the conference's elite in total defense. If the Continentals are able to hold Trinity's running game in check, then they should be in position to capture the victory. Trinity has one of the elite rushers in the conference, but their passing attack is mediocre, so stuffing the box might not be such a bad idea. On offense, Hamilton should look to Eck to throw the ball early so that the running lane will open up for the running backs. If the Continentals are able to put together another offensive clinic, then they will be in great position to end Trinity's reign on the all-time series and put another "W" in the win column.



Taylor Soobitsky '09, defensive lineman

Men's and Women's Cross-Country Teams Race Towards Success

by Lindsay Getman '10
Sports Editor

Led by experienced returners, one of whom is a national champion, the Hamilton Men's and Women's Cross-Country teams are off to a great start. Though the teams started the season with challenging opponents as well as multiple injuries, both the men and women have improved with each race. The next meet on the schedule is the Hamilton Invitational, a great opportunity for friends and family to come out and cheer on these phenomenal runners at home.

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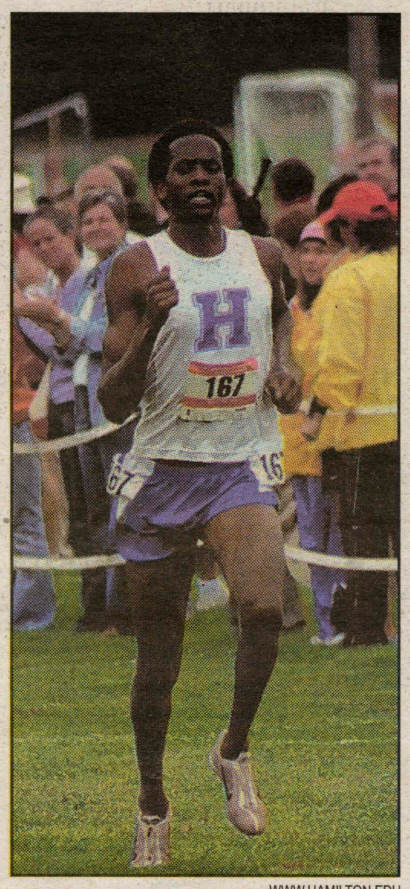
Abby Jones '09

Both teams began the season with a 5K race on September 13 at the SUNY Brockport Invitational. The women's team finished second, while the men's team finished fourth. Emily Potter '12 had an impressive rookie performance, leading the Hamilton pack with a time of 20:04.30 and placing third overall. Meredith FitzPatrick '11 was right behind, placing fourth with a time of 20:19.

Erica Losito '12 also had a great first collegiate race, placing ninth overall with a time of 20:35.40, while Abby King '11 and Abby Jones '09 placed 12th and 13th with times of 20:37.30 and 20:39.30, respectively.

Stand-out Peter Kosgei '10 led the men, running 15:42.40 for first place. Scott Bickard '11 was next in line for Hamilton, placing 23rd in 16:57.80. Cuffie Winkler '10, Devon Lynch '11 and Garrett Armbruster '10 rounded out Hamilton's top five.

The following weekend the teams ran in the SUNY Oneonta Airfield Invitational. Kosgei did not disappoint, running the 6K race in 18:26 and setting a new meet record. Kosgei averaged sub-five miles, and his teammates picked up the pace as well. Lynch finished 22nd with a time of 20:10. Bickard came in at 20:19, Will Reid '10 at 20:25 and Winkler just one second behind Reid. The men's team finished fourth overall against nine other teams.



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Peter Kosgei '10

The women's team achieved an impressive first place win in the Oneonta Invitational. Fitz-Patrick led the Hamilton women in the 4500 meter race, averaging 6:10 miles and finishing third with a time of 17:12. Gen Flanders '08 was eighth with a time of 17:43. Potter, Perry Ryan '12 and King rounded out the top five.

On September 15, Potter was named the NESCAC Women's Cross-Country Performer of the Week. The following week, Kosgei was selected the NESCAC Men's Cross-Country Performer of the week.

On September 27 the teams traveled to Canton for St. Lawrence's Hoffmann Invitational. The meet increased the length the teams would run— an 8K for the men and a 6K for the women. According to Bickard, this "last race was very encouraging, with most of our team running similar paces to the first few weeks even though the distance was upped."

Kosgei continued his winning streak, coming in first against competition from 16 other teams with a time of 25:03. Reid was in 52nd place at 27:13, with Bickard just a second behind. Lynch followed at 69th place with a time of 27:37, and Armbruster rounded out the top five with a time of 27:50. The men's team finished ninth overall.

FitzPatrick remained at the head of the pack, placing 29th with a time of 23:56. Ryan placed 32nd at 24:04, followed by Potter, Flanders and Maddy Gunter '11.

The Cross-Country teams' next meet will be the Hamilton Invitational on October 11 at 12 p.m. Both the men's and women's teams are eager to race on their home turf. Bickard says that the men's squad has "always been a team that gets much stronger as the season progresses, so we still haven't come close to what we can do this year."

PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES GREBEY '12

Meredith FitzPatrick '11